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FARMER JONES SPEAKS.

How things have changed! I've always thought, and father thought the same,
That so a boy could read, and spell, and plainly sign his name,
He had learned enough and knew enough to manage any farm;
That books and papers [were all trash, and often did him harm.

But things have changed—why bless my soul! 'twas but the other day
In town, at Smith's, I got so mixed, I didn't know what to say—
They spoke of things all Dutch to me, of which I never had heard,
And if I had, knew nothing of, so I couldn't say a word.

There's Johnson, once my hired man—he lives across the way—
With his speck of a farm, knows more than me, and beats me every day;
His land looks clean, his crops do well, his house is good as new;
He owes no man, and what is more, is making money, too.

And the Harper lad—a boy, I say!—old Squire Harper's son—
College-bred—a lawyer too—and at farming just begun,
Sticks to it well, although he says, (I tell you he don't shirk,)
That he knows only the theory, and that Seth Brown does the work.

Now Brown himself don't read, 'tis true, but never will pass by
Good hints from books, he listens well, and then begins to try—
That's the way they manage things, and switch me if I know
A prettier farm than Harper's, in the valley here below.

My children, too, in spite of all I've done to keep them back,
Have learned a little—but why talk more? I've long been off the track,
And mean to take it pretty soon—I'll do it right away,
I'll change my clothes, hitch up my team, and put for town to day.

I'll get the books and papers, too, I'll try them for a while;
Yes, every one [see children want—but won't their mother smile?
Perhaps she'll cry, but not from grief, as often she has cried,)
To see the very things brought home she has always been denied.

A MONTE FLAT PASTORAL.

How Old Man Plunkett went Home

BRET HARTE'S LAST STORY.

I think we all loved him. Even after he mismanaged the affairs of the Amity Ditch Company we all commiserated him, though almost all of us were stockholders and lost heavily. I remember that the blacksmith went so far as to say that "Them chaps as put that responsibility on the old man oughter be lynched." But the blacksmith was not a stockholder, and the expression was looked upon as the excusable extravagance of a large, sympathizing nature, that, when combined with a powerful frame, was unworthy of notice. At least that was the way they put it. Yet I think there was a general feeling of regret that this misfortune would interfere with the old man's long-cherished plan of "going home."

Indeed, for the last ten years he had been "going home." He was going home after a six months' sojourn at Monte Flat. He was going home after the first rains. He was going home when the rains were over. He was going home when he had cut the timber on Buckeye Hill, when there was pasture on Dow's Flat, when he struck pay dirt on Eureka Hill, when the Amity Company paid its first dividend, when the election was over, when he had received an answer from his wife. And so the years rolled by, the spring rains came and went, the woods of Buckeye Hill were level with the ground, the pasture on Dow's Flat grew sere and dry, Eureka Hill yielded its pay dirt and swamped its owner, the first dividends of the Amity Company were made from the assessments of stockholders, there were new county officers at Monte Flat, his wife's answer had changed into a persistent question, and still old man Plunkett remained.

It is only fair to say that he had made several distinct essays towards going.—Five years before he had bidden goodbye to Monte Hill with much effusion and hand-shaking. But he never got any further than the next town. Here he was induced to trade the sorrel colt he was riding for a bay mare—a transaction that at once opened to his lively fancy a vista of vast and successful future speculation. A few days after, Abner Dean, of Angel's, received a letter from him stating that he was going to Vissalia to buy horses. "I am satisfied," wrote Plunkett, with that elevated rhetoric for which his correspondence was remarkable, "I am satisfied that we are at last developing the real resources of California. The world will yet look to Dow's Flat as the great stock-raising center. In view of the interests involved, I defer my departure for a month." It was two before he again returned to us, penniless. Six months later he was again enabled to start for the Eastern States, and this time he got as far as San Francisco. I have before me a letter which I received a few days after his arrival, from which I give an extract: "You know, my dear boy, that I have always believed that gambling, as it is absurdly called, is still in its infancy in California. I have always maintained that a perfect system might be invented by which the game of poker may be made to yield a certain per centage to the intelligent player. I am not at liberty at present to disclose the system, but before leaving this city I intend to perfect it." He seems to have done so, and returned to Monte Flat with two dollars and thirty-seven cents, the absolute remainder of his capital after such perfection.

It was not till 1868 that he appeared to have finally succeeded in going home. He left us by the overland route—a route which he declared would give great opportunity for the discovery of undeveloped resources. His last letter was dated Virginia City. He was absent three years. At the close of a very hot day in midsummer he alighted from the Wingdam stage with hair and beard powdered with dust and age. There was a certain shyness about his greeting, quite different from his usual frank vivability that did not, however, impress us as any accession of character. For some days he was reserved regarding his recent visit, contenting himself with asserting, with more of less aggressiveness, that he had "always said he was going home and now he has been there." Later he grew more communicative, and spoke freely and critically of the manners and customs of New York and Boston, comparing them with the social changes in the years of his absence, and, I remember, was very hard upon what he deemed the follies incidental to a high state of civilization. Still later, he darkly alluded to the moral laxity of the higher planes of Eastern society, but it was not long before he completely tore away the veil and revealed the naked wickedness of New York social life in a way I even now shudder to recall. Vinous intoxication, it appeared, was a common habit of the first ladies of the city; immoralities which he scarcely dared name were daily practiced by the refined of both sexes; niggardliness and greed were the common vices of the rich. "I have always asserted," he continued, "that corruption must exist where luxury and riches are rampant, and capital is not used to develop the natural resources of the country. Thank you—I will take mine without sugar."

It is possible that some of these painful details crept into the local journals. I remembered an editorial in the Monte Flat *Monitor*, entitled "Effete East", in which the fatal decadence of New York and New England was elaborately stated and California offered as a means of natural salvation. "Perhaps," said the *Monitor*, "we might add that Calaveras county offers superior inducements to the Eastern visitor with capital."

Later he spoke of his family, the daughter he had left had grown into beautiful womanhood; the son was already taller than his father, and, in playful trial of strial of strength, 'the young rascal," added Plunkett, with a voice broken with paternal pride, "had twice thrown his doting parent to the ground." But it was of his daughter he chiefly spoke. Perhaps emboldened by the evident interest which masculine Monte Flat held in feminine beauty, he expatiated at some length on her various charms and accomplishments, and finally produced her photograph—that of a very pretty girl—to their infinite peril. But his account of first meeting with her was so peculiar that I must fain give it after his own methods, which were, perhaps, some shades less precise and elegant than his written style:

"You see, boys, it's always been my opinion that a man oughter be able to tell his own flesh and blood by instinct. It's ten years since I'd seen my Melindy, and she was then only seven, and about so high. So, when I went to New York, what did I do? Did I go straight to my house and ask for my wife and daughter, like other folks? No, sir! I rigged myself up as a peddler, and, I rung the bell. When the servant came to the door, I wanted—don't you see—to show the trinkets. Then there was a voice over the banister, says: "'Don't want anything—send him away.' 'Some nice laces, ma'am, smuggled,' I says, looking up. 'Get out, you wretch,' says she. I knew the voice, boys, it was my wife, sure as a gun—that wasn't any instinct thar. 'May be the young ladies want somethin', I said, 'Did you hear me!' says she, and with that she jumps forward, and I left. It's ten years, boys, since I've seen the old woman, but somehow, when she fetched that leap, I naturally left."

He had been standing beside the bar—his usual attitude—when he made this speech, but at this point he half-faced his auditors with a look that was very effective. Indeed, a few who had exhibited some signs of skepticism and lack of interest, at once assumed an appearance of intense gratification as he went on:

"Well, by hangin' round there for a day or two, I found out at last it was to be Melindy's birthday next week, and that she was goin' to have a big party. I tell ye what, boys, it weren't no slouch of a reception. The whole house was bloomin' with flowers, and blazin' with lights, and there was no end of servants and plate and refreshments and fixin's—"

"Uncle Joe."

"Well?"

"Where did they get the money?"

Plunkett faced his interlocutor, with a severe glance. "I always said," he replied slowly, 'that when I went home I'd send on ahead of me a draft for $10,000. I always said that, didn't I? Eh? And I said I was goin' home—and I've been home—haven't I? Well?'

Either there was something irresistibly conclusive in this logic, or else the desire to hear the remainder of Plunkett's story was stronger; but there was no more interruption. His ready good humor quickly returned, and, with a slight chuckle, he went on:

"I went to the biggest jewelry shop in town, and I bought a pair of diamond ear-rings and put them in my pocket, and went to the house. 'What name,' says the chap who opened the door, and he looked like a cross between a restaurant waiter and a parson. 'Skeesicks,' said I. He takes me in, and pretty soon my wife come sailin' into the parlor and says: 'Excuse me,' but I don't think I recognize the name.' She was mighty polite, for I had on a red wig and side whiskers. 'A friend of your husband's, from California, ma'am, with a present for your daughter, Miss ——, and I made as though I had forgot the name. But of a sudden a voice said, 'That's too thin,' and in walked Melindy. 'It's playin' too low down, father, to pretend you don't know your own daughter's name—ain't it, now? How are you, old man?' And with that she tears off my wig and whiskers, and throws her arms around my neck—instinct, sir, pure instinct!"

Emboldened by the laughter which followed his description of the filial utterances of Melinda, he again repeated her speech, with more of less elaboration, joining in with, and indeed often leading the hilarity that accompanied it, and returning to it with more or less incoherency several times during the evening.

And so at various times, and at various places—but chiefly in bar-rooms—did this Ulysses of Monte Flat recount the story of his wanderings. There were several discrepancies in his statement—there was sometimes considerable prolixity of detail, there was occasional change of character and scenery, there was once or twice an absolute change in the denouement, but always the fact of his having visited his wife and children remained. Of course in a skeptical community like that of Monte Flat—a community wherein, to use the local dialect, "they got the coon and struck hard-pan" more frequently than any other mining camp—in such a community the rumored presence was not given to old man Plunkett's lies. There was only one exception to the general unbelief—Henry York, of Sandy Bar. It was always he who was an attentive listener; it was his scant purse that had often furnished Plunkett with means to pursue his unprofitable speculations; it was to him that the charms of Melinda were more frequently rehearsed; it was he that had borrowed her photograph—and it was he, that, sitting alone in his cabin one night, kissed that photograph until his honest, handsome face glowed again in the firelight.

It was dusty in Monte Flat. The ruins of the long, dry season were crumbling everywhere; everywhere the dying summer had strewn its red ashes a foot deep, or exhaled its last breath in a red cloud above the troubled highways. The alders and cottonwood that marked the line of the water-course were grimy with dust, and looked as if they might have taken root in the open air, the gleaming stones of the parched water-course themselves were as dry bones in the valley of death. The dusty sunset at times painted the flanks of the distant hills a dull coppery hue; on other days there was an odd, indefinable earthquake hollow on the volcanic cones of the further coast spurs; again an acid, resinous smoke from the burning wood on Heavytree Hill, smarted the eyes and choked the free breath of Monte Flat, or a fierce wind driving everything—including the shriveled summer like a curled leaf—before it, swept down the flanks of the Sierras and chased the inhabitants to the doors of their cabins, and shook its red fist in at their windows. And on such a night as this—the dust having, in some way, choked the wheels of material progress in Monte Flat—most of the inhabitants were gathered listlessly in the gilded bar-room of the Moquelumne Hotel, spitting silently at the red-hot stove that tempered the mountain winds to the shorn lambs of Monte Flat, and waiting for the rain.

Every method known to the Flat, of beguiling the time until the advent of this long-looked-for phenomenon had been tried. It is true the methods were not many—being limited chiefly to that form of popular facetiae known as practical joking; and even this had assumed the seriousness of a business pursuit. Tommy Roy, who had spent two hours in digging a ditch in front of his own door into which a few friends dropped during the evening—looked ennuye and dissatisfied; the four prominent citizens, who, disguised as foot-pads, had stopped the county treasurer on the Wingdam road, were jaded from their playful efforts next morning; the principal physician and lawyer of Monte Flat, who had entered into an unhallowed conspiracy to compel the Sheriff of Calaveras and his posse to serve a writ of ejectment on a grizzly bear, feebly disguised under the name of "one Major Ursus," who haunted the groves of Heavy-tree Hill, wore an expression of resigned weariness. Even the editor of the Monte Flat Monitor, who had that morning written a glowing account of a battle with the Wipneck Indians for the benefit of Eastern readers—even he looked grave and worn. When, at last, Abner Dean, of Angel's, who had been on a visit to San Francisco, walked into the room, he was, of course, victimized in the usual way by one or two apparently honest questions which ended in his answering them, and then falling into the trap of asking another to his utter and complete shame and mortification—but that was all. Nobody laughed, and Abner, although a victim, did not lose his good humor. He turned quietly on his tormentors and said:

"I've got something better than that—you know old man Plunkett?'

Everybody simultaneously spat at the stove and nodded his head.

"You know he went home three years ago?" Two or three changed the position of their legs from the backs of different chairs, and one man said "Yes."

"Had a good time home?"

Everybody looked cautiously at the man who had said "yes," and he accepting the responsibility with a faint-hearted smile, said "yes,' again, and breathed hard. 'Saw his wife and child—purty gal?' said Abner, cautiously.

"Yes," answered the man, doggedly.

"Saw her photograph, perhaps?" continued Abner Dean, quietly.

The man looked hopelessly around for support. Two or three who had been sitting near him, and evidently encouraging him with a look of interest, now shamelessly abandoned him and looked another way. Henry York flushed a little and veiled his brown eyes. The man hesitated, and then with a sickly smile that was intended to convey the fact that he was perfectly aware of the object of this questioning, he was only humoring it from abstract good feeling, returned "yes," again.

"Sent home—let's see—$10,000, wasn't it?" Abner Dean went on. "Yes," reiterated the man, with the same smile.

"Well, I thought so," said Abner quietly, "but the fact is, you see, that he never went home at all—nary time."

Everybody stared at Abner in genuine surprise and interest, as with provoking calmness and a half-lazy manner he went on:

"You see thar was a man down in 'Frisco as knowed him and saw him in Sonora during the whole of that three years. He was herding sheep or tending cattle, or speculating all that time, and hadn't a red cent. Well it 'mounts to this—that ar Plunkett ain't been east of the Rocky Mountains since '49."

The laugh which Abner Dean had the right to confidently expect came, but it was bitter and sardonic. I think indignation was apparent in the minds of his hearers. It was felt, for the first time, that there was a limit to practical joking. A deception carried on for a year compromising the sagacity of Monte Flat, was deserving the severest reprobation. Of course, nobody had believed Plunkett—but then the supposition that it might be believed in adjacent camps that they had believed him, was gall and bitterness. The lawyer thought that an indictment for obtaining money under false pretenses might be found, the physician had long suspected him of insanity, and was not certain but that he ought to be confined. The four prominent merchants thought that the business interests of Monte Flat demanded that something should be done. In the midst an excited and angry discussion, the door slowly opened, and old man Plunkett staggered into the room.

He had changed pitifully in the last six months. His hair was a dusty yellowish gray, like the chaparral on the flanks of Heavytree Hill; his face was waxen white and bits and puffy under the eyes; his clothes were soiled and shabby—streaked in front with the stains of hurried luncheons eaten standing, and fluffy behind with the wool and hair of hurriedly extemporized couches. In obedience to that old law that the more seedy and soiled a man's garments become the less does he seem inclined to part with them, even during that portion of the twenty-four hours when they are deemed least essential. Plunkett's clothes had gradually taken on the appearance of a kind of bark or outgrowth from within for which their possessor was not entirely responsible. Howbeit as he entered the room he attempted to button his coat over a dirty shirt and passed his fingers, after the manner of some animal over his crackerstrewn beard—in recognition of a cleanly public sentiment. But even as he did so the weak smile faded from his lips, and his hand, after fumbling aimlessly around a button, dropped helplessly at his side. For, as he leaned his back against the bar and faced the group, he for the first time became aware that every eye but one was fixed upon him. His quick nervous apprehension at once leaped to the truth.

His miserable secret was out and abroad in the very air about him. As a last resort he glanced despairingly at Henry York, but his flushed face was turned toward the windows.

[CONCLUDED NEXT WEEK.]

MID-WINTER FASHIONS.

Skating Suits—French Suits—Evening Dresses—Muffler Veils—White Silk Mufflers—Black Toilettes—Jewelry and Watches.

(Prepared expressly for the Blade.)

With the height of the season, and the completion of the wardrobe which the inauguration of winter foreshadowed there remain few novelties to chronicle regarding modes and materials for the more important garments of ladies' toilets, and we therefore present our readers a brief *resume* of such new wardrobe accessories as those much accustomed to society deem requisite to properly meet its demands. While skating rinks are *passe* in all but the metropolitan cities, skating continues to be a favorite amusement with ladies and misses where the climate admits of it, and designs for

SKATING SUITS

are furnished by Madame Mode. Their material requires to be of some soft, warm all-wool fabric of the heavier qualities, like serge, cloth, vigogne, flannel, or camel's hair goods. Plaids of gray Scotch or crimson and green are very popular, and those whose means are abundant prefer fur trimmings. The skirt of the skating suit should be quite short, rather more so than the ordinary walking dress, and somewhat trimmed. One deep pleated flounce, with heading or several ruffles, find most favor. The over-dress of the skating-suit is a polonaise, a plain double-breasted redingote, or a basquine, with a long apron overskirt, for all of which fur is the most suitable and richest trimming. Flowing sleeves are recommended as giving a graceful appearance to the skater; when worn they require close fitting coat-sleeves beneath to afford warmth. Though seal skin turbans are the favorite hats, they are unhealthy, since they create too great heat about the head. Felt hats, with fur facings on the sides, trimmed with ostrich plumes and aigrettes, have a pretty effect and are more healthful. For children and misses balmoral hose or Balbriggans are considered indispensable.

FRENCH SUITS

These, as heretofore stated, are composed of velvet and silk; though imported early last autumn, they still retain great popularity with people whose purses will admit of the extravagance.—Brocades, velvets and soft twilled silks with raised velvety figures, are much used for toilets of this description, and dark blue, plain and mignonette are the favorite colors. Worth's most popular style of skirt is made, with the demi train, clinging closely to the figure below the waist and only three yards wide at the bottom, the back seam is left open at the edge, and a broad velvet flounce is pleated in, in such a manner that it creates the train. Embroidered cashmeres are in vogue with Parisians for overdresses with these suits. Gray and black cashmeres are among the new importations, so closely embroidered that the ground is scarcely discernable.—Polonaises are usually made of the latter material, and when worn over silk and velvet skirts make a most elegant appearance. As they are quite expensive, the cheapest being $150, so few can afford them that there is no danger of their becoming common.

EVENING DRESSES.

In evening toilets four principal designs are announced, which may be classed as shaded dresses, white dresses, black ones and those of contrasting colors. The first have deep lace accessories, that is, the main portion of the costume is of a much brighter shade that the trimming. In contrasting dresses, odd color combinations are employed, as violet with pink, blue or buff, etc. Though fashionable, these dresses are scarcely becoming, since they are extremely trying to most complexions, and as they will probably have a short existence, those who do not contemplate following court customs and throwing an elegant and expensive suit aside, after wearing it once or twice, will do well to avoid them. Black and white dresses are always beautiful, becoming and elegant, and since they admit of every variety of trimming and ornamentation their wearers need never fear to present an unfashionable or an inelegant appearance. A great effort has been made by Parisian modistes to introduce low corsages, which have been successful with brainless ladies. These are modeled after the Josephine style of round waist and worn with belt, buckle and sash. But as very many society belles possess sufficient American common sense to prefer the high corsage, this is very fashionable, and is invariably made in the basque style. No radical change is announced in the accessories of the basque. Training skirts are universal, the demi and court trains being popular. Worth's overskirts are discarded, the trimmings are strewn *en tablier* on the front breadths, and when worn they are made with a deeply pointed apron and back by a sash, or a shawl shaped drapery for the back breadths. Organdy and Swiss are favorite to fabrics for white dresses for the trimming of which Malines and Mechlin laces supercede Valenciennes. The most elegant black dresses are made of tulle and Chambery gauze, with which coral ornaments are in high favor.

MUFFLER VEILS AND WHITE SILK MUFFLERS.

An American modiste has introduced a new style of veil, of Spanish net, three yards long and three-eights of a yard wide. The middle of the scarf covers the face like a mask, the sides are caught back, pinned by a veil pin, and without crossing are brought forward under the chin, and lapped around the neck like a large muffler. The net has large figures, which may be so arranged as to conceal the face, and leave a thin space for the eyes. The effect of the muffler veil is said to be very pretty. White silk mufflers are generally worn by both ladies and gentlemen. They are large handkerchiefs of twilled silk, with a colored hem or a striped border of Venetian changeable silk, and are worn folded in three corner shawl shape, high around the neck, inside double-breasted cloaks or between the fur boa and the neck. They may be knotted or fastened with a small pin, and are as warm and comfortable, as ornamental.

BLACK TOILETS

The popularity of black toilets is on the increase, instead of being on the wane, both at home and abroad. Black velvet and black silk form, at once the most elegant and fashionable walking costumes. Cassques and batquines made of velvet, are trimmed with silver fox fur for the street, with jet and jet galloons for house and visiting costumes. Black tulle for evening, and black silk for dinner dresses supercede all other colors and materials.

JEWELRY.

In jewel designs ball ear-rings and pendant brooches with corresponding sleeve buttons are a variety. Gold sets without stones retain preference for ordinary wear. Gold crystals and enamel in various mountings, designs introduced at the Vienna exposition, are being imported and are in favor with those who follow fashion changes in jewelry. Historic cameos are also being introduced from the same source. Some are of dark onyx with white figures in relief and mounted with gold, showing profiles of the Madonna. Others are of Christmas devices with the Star of the Orient and the Wise Men following it, and others again represent scenes from heathen mythology as Aurora driving the Chariot of Dawn, copied in miniature from Guido's celebrated painting. As these cameos are works of art they are necessarily very expensive, especially when set in diamonds. In watches, the quaint looking old fashioned Moorish styles, with antique dials are being revived. They are so securely made that they who admire the fashion, of wearing them suspended from chatelaines can imitate it, without fear of injuring them. Transparent enamel cases in Louis XIV., designs are also being introduced for chatelaine watches, those are ball-shaped, with curious antique dial and stem winder. Art is brought into requisition in the enameling and representatives of Thorwaldsen's "Night" and "Morning," and designs from other eminent painters and sculptors are extensively copied.

MARIAM MAYNARD.

A BUNGLING EXECUTION.

The Rope Breaks and the Body Falls to the Scaffold Just as Life is Ready to Take Its Flight.

The execution of Jacob Mechella, a sailor, at the jail of Hudson county, New York, on Friday last, was a most bungling job. The criminal was a hardened wretch, showing not the slightest evidence of penitence to the last, the only feeling developed being as to the manner of his death. The New York *World* thus describes the scene at the gallows:

There was no unnecessary delay. In an instant he stood under the scaffold. There was a brief prayer from Rev. O. G. Hedstrom, meaningless to Mechella, who watched him with open-eyed wonder till he concluded. He stood unconcerned, with one foot extended and his head erect. His hands hung unclosed. It was not even necessary to clench them to retain this perfect nerve. As the Sheriff approached he gave one quick glance first to the left then to the right. Possibly the untamed brute within him was longing for one moment of liberty and a last desparate grip around some throat near him. Possibly he looked at the body he was to leave with vague wonder that it would so soon be useless and inert. The first attempt to fasten the noose which hung around his neck by the ring above failed in the nervous fingers of a bungling official. But Isaacs stepped forward and snapped the catch into place with perfect composure. The Sheriff stepped to Mechella's side and gently removed the lighted cigar he was puffing to the last, and there was not a quiver of mouth or eyelid. He felt the Sheriff touch his cap to draw it down; death was very near. Two great tear-drops stood in his eyes as the black cloth shut out the sunlight. With all his reckless bearing some softening thought passed through his mind at that last moment. The Sheriff laid his hand in his and bade him good-by, his friend Norton did the same; the Sheriff raised his hand as a signal to those around to step back, and turned quick and resolute to the hatchet. Quick as he was, Mechella had time to raise a pinioned arm, strike up the cap, and say in a voice changed and pleading, "Don't hang me, don't hang—." The sentence remained unfinished. The blow of the hatchet, the whirr of the running rope, the thud of the iron weight as it struck the soft earth, all came to the ear together as Mechella was flung into the air. It was just twenty-six minutes past ten as the body was torn from its firm footing, thrown to the left, and straightway with a jerk hung, turning slowly and methodically first to the right and then to the left, and the head looped loosely over, nose and mouth visible below the black cap, which an attendant had put on with his hand to draw down when cap and head and body were jerked above him.

For three minutes and a half the mass dangled without a struggle. Then came motion. Motion had been the one thing least noticed in the man five minutes before; now it was before itself. The head shifted uneasily and the body seemed to settle forward. There was a low groan of horror from the wedged crowd as the man who had shot into the air sank on the platform inert and noiseless, limbs and body in one indistinguishable mass. The Sheriff covered his face with his hands, and uttered a smothered "O, my God!" The militia broke ranks and crowded to the scaffold. There was an instant of utter confusion. The rope had been tested once too often the day before and the strain had loosened the twine with which the noose was fastened to the hook. The shock unrove it, and it parted. But the Sheriff's professional coadjutor was equal to the emergency. He drew from his pocket the noose with which Nixon and Foster were hung, and it was placed around Mechella's neck. The rope was swinging eight feet above. A deputy jumped, caught it with one hand and as the slender cord slipped from his grasp, he narrowly escaped falling across the prostrate body of a blundering official. An officious soldier made passes at the cord with his bayonet, hoping to catch it in some unimaginable way on the point. At length the rope was untied from the weight, and a man raised by the crowd seized and drew it down to the ground. The new noose was fastened to the rope and a half-dozen men hauled the half-hung man again in the air. He hung quietly now, save a slight spasm at the wrist and one five minutes later that ran over his whole frame. The cap had been properly adjusted, too, and his face was no longer visible, but shifting the noose brought to view the purple ring that marked the first fatal grip of the cord. The County Physician, Dr. Buck, was on the scaffold, accompanied by Drs. Quimby, Wilkinson, and Chabert, and their fingers were busy from the first running over pulse and heart, even before the horrible loosening of the rope. The heart stopped beating at 10:41; at 10:34½ the pulse was at 52, beating tremulously; at 10:37 it rose to 68, and fell off to 56 a minute and a half later. It was seven minutes of eleven when the undertaker brought out his little platform and stools and the body was lowered on them.

Mr. Beecher's Retrospect.

There was a large attendance at the regular Friday meeting at Plymouth Church last evening and Mr. Beecher spoke with more feeling than usual. After singing and prayer he said:

I want to say a few words of the year that has past before entering upon the new one. I have felt that there has been around me a continual inspiration, and I have felt a sense of the divine presence by day and by night. I have had always a great faith, but for the year past I have had a very clear and very sustaining comforting assurance of a God in Christ Jesus. I think I can bear witness also that my own judgment of things for the past year has been set aside in favor of a higher disposal of affairs. I have had a clearer insight into spiritual things than I have ever had in any one year. I have an intense conviction of the reality of the truth in regard to the infusion of spiritual things into the living world, a greater love for men, an earnest desire for their welfare, and through the providence of God I have been able to say, "Not my will but thine be done." God marked out and I only followed the marks. I do not remember but one period in my life in which I have had so many marked and clear proofs of the light of love in the Lord Jesus—I have had my full share of what Jacob had when he wrestled with the Lord. It was at the time that I was to speak in London on behalf of my beloved country. I got so overladen with despair during that afternoon that finally I had to fall back into the arms of God. I had a sense of what my country was, and had a strong overwhelming sense of the majesty of the great principle of liberty and love in my soul, the sorrow of all the slaves. I did not know what an English audience was, nor what I could do, nor but that they would hoot at and hiss me out, but I abided in prayer. I was in prayer the whole afternoon, and within a half hour of the beginning of my talk. Then it came over me. I was perfectly willing to go to that hall, though I should be put out. There came over me such a glow of peace. I was surcharged, as it were, with the electricity of love, and on my way to the hall I wanted to sing. I was, in fact, burst with the heat of my own inspiration, and there were that crowd of 5,000, with many scowling faces. My curiosity as them was excited; but from the first moment I looked I had no fear. I was as tranquil as a little lake on the top of a mountain, where it was far up beyond the reach of winds, and saw nothing but the stars and moon shining calm and serene. I was in perfect ease. I have had such feeling temporarily at times; but during the past year I have had a sense of revelation and trust the most implicit. I look back upon this year as the one in which I have received that of which for all years I have the most to be thankful for. The blessings of God have continued in greater abundance than at any former period I can remember.

Mr. Beecher's experience was recited in a low, tremulous voice, during a most perfect silence, and at an early hour the audience was dismissed.—*New York World*, Jan. 10.

Jury Trial in Austria.

Trial by jury was introduced into Austria about twenty years ago, but was soon abolished. It is now to be again brought into play. The public prosecutors are not to be necessarily counsel against the accused; they are to weigh the facts impartially and prosecute or defend the alleged culprit according to their ideas of the burden of proof. The juries are especially warned, in a Ministerial circular, that they are not to decide in accordance with their political, national, or religious opinions." The warning is needed in a country of such different races and faiths as Austria. Perhaps, however, the author of the circular had in mind some recent eccentricities of jury justice across the Alps. An Italian jury recently acquitted a man who fired at random into a church and wounded a worshipper, on the ground that the latter deserved to be punished for the bigoted superstition that led him to be there. In Naples, an abscounding tax collector was let go, because he, as one of the people, was part owner of the money he had collected, and no man can steal his own property.

A pin has as much right to set up as a good many aristocrats, and a great deal more point.

RELIGIOUS.

A decree has been published in Prussia requiring Bishops to swear allegiance to the State.

There is talk of electing an old Catholic Bishop in Switzerland, as they have done in Germany.

The Baptist Home Missionary Society of the United States is now in debt $40,000, which must be raised, or missionaries will have to be dismissed.

Rev. M. B. Smith, of the Dutch Reformed Church in New Jersey, has connected himself with Bishop Cummins Reformed Protestant Episcopal Church.

The Jews are agitating the question of giving up the artistic style of doing up the singing of the sanctuary by trained chorus, and substituting congregational singing.

The Congressman at Large from South Carolina, Richard H. Cain, was fourteen years ago pastor of an African Methodist Church in Muscatine, Iowa.

Rev. Newman Hall, before sailing for Liverpool, announced that he had succeeded in raising the money required to complete the share of America in the Lincoln tower.

The Presbytery of Weston, Texas, are asking for more ministers. There are many places destitute of religious services, and efforts are being made to supply them.

At a meeting of the Friends, held in Brooklyn, a short time since, the men and women sat together. This is the first innovation upon their custom of sitting apart in their worship.

The *Christian Union* says that "a little less machinery in the shape of boards and societies might not hinder the benevolent work of the churches, while it would certainly decrease the expenses."

Rev. William Taylor proposes to build a central preaching place at Bow Bazaar, Calcutta. A plot of land has been rented for $50 per year, on which a house, 30 by 48 feet, costing $500, is to be built.

A Roman Catholic Bishop being invited to open the Vermont Legislature, some time since, surprised that body by uttering the following petition: "May corruption and sin of every form be as far from every member of this Legislature as Thou art, O Lord."

The Methodists in Philadelphia have but two churches valued above $52,000; in Baltimore they have one valued at $250,000, and in Chicago, Clark street, one at $300,000. The latter, however, is a business block, with rooms in it for church purposes.

The Presbyterians of New York city will have no more union schools, but will in the future plant purely Presbyterian Sunday-schools, out of which they expect to form mission churches, and next self-supporting Presbyterian congregations.

The two prominent candidates for the vacant Episcopal bishopric of Wisconsin, are the Rev. Hugh Miller Thompson, D. D., of New York, and Professor De Koorn, of Racine. The latter gentleman was very near being elected Bishop of Massachusetts.

Dr. Pusey affirms that while the formularies of the Church of England do not justify any parish priest in requiring private confession as a condition of receiving the holy communion, yet all who claim the privilege of private confession are entitled to it.

The Cincinnati Preachers' Meeting has for a length of time been discussing the question of licensing women to preach. On one occasion Bishop Merrill was present, and gave a most hideous account of a sermon which he heard a very popular lady preacher deliver.

The Lee Avenue Baptist Church in Brooklyn, Rev. J. Hyatt Smith pastor, has taken a still more definite stand on the open communion question, and declares that with its present convictions it cannot retrace its steps, even though the penalty be the withdrawal of recognition by the denomination.

Rev. Robert Laird Collier, the celebrated Unitarian minister of Chicago, has been enlightening his people on the subject of the Gospel according to Darwin, by a series of discourses on "Evolution;" and on a recent Sunday he essayed to answer the question, "Was Jesus a Myth or a Man?"

The following list of miracles performed is posted in the Church of Notre Dame de Lumieres Marseilles: Miracles obtained by the intercession of Our Lady of Lumieres: Dead raised, 19; blind made to see, 187; deaf and dumb relieved, 127; lame restored, 126; paralytics vitalized, 153; fevers cured, 135; sprains healed, 187; miscellaneous miracles, 210. Total, 1,152.

Rev. Jas. Freeman Clarke, a Unitarian pastor of Boston, is making of the Sunday evenings in his church, this season, a free parliament, inviting ministers of different parties to present the peculiar views of the denomination to which they severally belong. A Roman Catholic priest, among others, has accepted the invitation.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Nachez requests his people to keep the holy water always in their room—not closed up, but open, where it can be used at any moment; they are to sprinkle the bed with it when they lie down to rest, and bless themselves with it when they rise. In storms and sickness, and other dangers, they are to use the holy water and the blessed candle. They are to carry about their persons their scapular medals, *Agnus Dei* and beads.

An unique service was held at Islington, England, recently, during the annual cattle show in the place, under the auspices of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. So many shepherds and herdsmen being present, the Society engaged the Agricultural Hall, and had a sermon preached there on the one point of showing kindness to the brute creation, to which eight hundred persons listened.

A new Society of Free Religionists has been established in Dubuque. This is their platform: We define religion to be a code of moral government, based on individual convictions of duty, prompting man to work his greatest happiness in the practice of the highest virtue. That as each person is responsible for his own actions, so each should be absolutely free to choose his own religion, guided only by those moral laws which guide him in the other affairs of life. That in matters of religious opinions reason is the final arbiter and the only legislative authority.

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

D. R. LOCKE. J. P. JONES.

LOCKE & JONES, Proprietors.

TOLEDO, OHIO, THURSDAY, JAN. 22, 1874.

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Our Agents everywhere are authorized to receive subscriptions at the above rates. In making this proposition we only stipulate that we must receive at the *same time* one subscriber for the BLADE for each copy of any other publication ordered from the list. They need not both be sent to the same person, nor even to the same Post Office, and in renewing their subscriptions, old as well as new ones, subscribers may avail themselves of the offer. The magazines and papers are all sent direct from the offices of publication to subscribers, so that there will be no delay in their receipt. No subscriptions received at the above rates for less than one year.

THE SALARY GRAB.

Congress has finally agreed upon a bill on the salary question, the Senate having adopted CONKLING'S substitute for the House bill and the House agreeing to the Senate substitute. This bill repeals the law of last spring, except so far as it relates to the President and Judges of the Supreme Court. It also provides that members of Congress shall not draw mileage for the present term of Congress, but hereafter the salaries and mileage, unless a new law can be passed, will be the same as before the grab was made. Members of the present Congress will, under this law, receive their pay at the rate of $7,500 per annum up to the time this bill becomes a law, which will be immediately after the President signs it. The people will not be entirely satisfied with this action. They demanded the unqualified repeal of the salary law and will not be satisfied with anything less than that.

THE TWO NEW REPUBLICS.

The people of France and Spain have made efforts to establish a Republican form of Government, modeled, in the main, after the United States; but France, after struggling for many months, has finally almost lost her hold upon Republicanism and has a President whose sympathies are all in favor of monarchy, while his term of office is of sufficient length to enable him to produce the results so evidently desired. Spain has been in a constant state of convulsions and now has a monarchist at her helm, though, like France, sailing under Republican colors. While the prospects of Republican success in either France or Spain are by no means flattering, we still have hope, especially for France, where there is, undoubtedly, a strong Republican sentiment prevalent among the more intelligent classes of people. In Spain, the people are so thoroughly accustomed to anarchy—or a state closely bordering upon it—that the establishment of a Republican form of government must be attended by many difficulties and delays, similar to those which have characterized the Republic of Mexico. Our Government may do much to encourage Spanish Republicans, and, we have no doubt, they will find in our new Minister that warm friend and able counsellor so much needed at this time.

☞ A sensational item recently traveled the rounds of the press, stating that two ladies in Madison, Georgia, had fallen heir to an estate of several millions in France, which had been recovered for them through the instrumentality and legal acumen of the Hon. JUDAH P. BENJAMIN, and that the lucky heiresses had left the land of chivalry and sailed for France to take possession of their inheritance. But, alas for human credulity; the whole story is a myth, so far as the inheritance goes, Mr. BENJAMIN having written to announce that his name has been falsely used by some scoundrel and swindler who has imposed upon the too credulous ladies and enriched himself, instead of his simple-minded and unsuspicious dupes, whose estates in France are similar to imaginary *Chateaux en Espagne*.

☞ Hons. CHARLES FOSTER, of this State, and BECK, of Kentucky, are a subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee, to investigate the possibility of reducing the salaries of officials in the Internal Revenue Department. They propose to cut everything down to the lowest possible point consistent with the interests of the public service.

COMPULSORY EDUCATION.

To compel a person to do anything, is a contraction of personal liberty; hence, in our Government, only such restraints are placed upon individual freedom as may be necessary for the protection of society. The policy of the Government has ever been to give the largest possible amount of freedom to the people and to restrain their liberties only to the extent required for the protection of the rights of individuals and the maintainance of good government. There has been a class of persons in the country, ever since its organization, who have endeavored to carry governmental authority and the exercise of its restraining power beyond the limits which we have indicated. They have erected a standard of morals after their own pattern, or a system of general behavior suited to their own tastes, and then have sought to compel all others to come to their standard—to think as they think and do as they do.

The people have consittently and persistently resisted these efforts to encroach upon individual liberty, and if any error has been committed in this connection, it has been in granting too much liberty to the individual for the good of society. It is a well recognized principle in our Government that individual interests must be subordinate to public interests—that the interests of the many are of greater importance than the interests of the few. Under that principle, cherished homes may be condemned, and finally taken from the individual, when needed to promote the general interest, and buildings may be torn down to head off a conflagration. While individual rights and interests are thus subordinate to society, society is compelled to compensate the invidual for any sacrifice of property to which he may be subjected for the ganeral good. Society is not a robber, but compensates every citizen for that which it takes from him.

As we have intimated, individuals are exceedingly jealous of their freedom—of their natural and unalienable rights, which they generally interpret to mean liberty to do as they please. It is not remarkable, therefore, that this prevalent sentiment should be shocked by the proposition to compel all children to be educated to the extent usually afforded by our common and free schools. The first impression which such a proposition makes upon the mind of almost every one is that it would be an unwarrantable encroachment upon the freedom of the individual—that if a man, from imagined necessity or inclination, feels disposed not to send his children to school, it would be inconsistent with the principles of our Government to interfere with his management of his own family. A little reflection, however, may reveal such facts as are well calculated to modify or change our views upon this subject.

Under our free school system, the property of the State must educate the children of the State. Individuals are compelled to pay a tax for the support of common schools, whether they send children to school or not. Property on the Ohio River may be, and it is taxed to pay for the schools in counties bordering upon Lake Erie. One county raises more money than is needed for the schools within its borders, and the surplus is given to a county where the tax does not produce an amount equal to the expenses of the schools. Men who educate their children abroad, or in private schools, paying for the same out of their private funds, are compelled to pay just as much tax as the man who reaps the greatest advantages from the free schools, and the man who pays no tax, has just as much right in the schools and to their benefits as the heaviest tax-payer.

Now, we have said that the policy of our Government is not to take private property for public use, without compensating the owner of the property so taken. The compensation which the Government provides is the protection of his person and property and the construction of such improvements as may be essential to the preservation of his health or the promotion of his convenience. These general propositions will be disputed by none. Here comes in the question—How can Government best protect the lives and property of its citizens and promote the general welfare? Can it be most effectually done by the passage and enforcement of laws for the punishment of crime? or, may crime itself not be prevented, to a large extent, by the education of all the children of the country? There can be no doubt of the fact that crime is most prevalent where the greatest amount of ignorance is found. Statistics are abundant and unvarying upon this point. In the six New England States, seven per cent. of the inhabitants over the age of ten years, can neither read nor write, while eight per cent. of the crime in those States is committed by this seven per cent. of illiterate population. To state it differently, in those States a person without education will commit fifty-three times as much crime as one with education. In France, in 1869, one-half the inhabitants could neither read nor write, and ninety-five per cent. of the crimes were committed by the illiterate half of the population. In New York and Pennsylvania, seven crimes are committed by the illiterate to one committed by those who are educated. These are sufficient facts to show that the best method by which crime can be prevented is to educate the people. The man who is taxed to keep up schools and whose money is paid out for the support of free schools, has a right to claim all the protection which can be afforded by the education of the children of the State. If nine-tenths of the crimes of the State are the result of the failure on the part of parents and guardians to educate the children under their care, has not every tax payer a right to demand that those children be educated as a compensation for the money which he is compelled to pay for such education?

Again, not only does education tend to prevent crime, but it also prevents pauperism. The educated person is seldom a pauper. He manages to make a living for himself. A thousand avenues are open to him where but one is open to the illiterate person. In Ohio, Illinois and Pennsylvania, statistics show that of the illiterate population one in ten are paupers, while only one in three hundred of the educated population are supported at public expense. We might give additional illustrations upon this point, but it is not necessary. Every one understands that ignorance and pauperism are twin sisters, and that ignorance is also the mother of crime. It will be seen that the taxes of the people are greatly increased in consequence of the crimes and pauperism chargeable to ignorance. The property holders are compelled to pay these expenses, while they are at the same time compelled to pay for the education of the children who grow up in ignorance to become paupers and criminals.

If the Government compels the property-owner to pay for the education of the children of other people, has he not a right to demand that these children be educated for the protection of his person and property, and to reduce his taxation for the support of paupers and the conviction and punishment of criminals? Has the tax-payer no rights in this matter? Must he furnish money to build school houses, employ teachers, &c., that he may have the protection and immunity from pauper taxation afforded by the education of the people, and then be cheated out of these benefits through the indifference or cupidity of parents who keep their children out of school, thus increasing criminals and paupers? Has the Government a right to compel the payment of taxes for school purposes, without it compels parents and guardians to send the children under their care to the schools which are supported by such taxation? Are not those who are taxed to keep up schools entitled to all the benefits which can be derived from those schools by the education of all the children of the State? Is it any more arbitrary to compel A to send his child to school, than it is to compel B to pay the money necessary for building the school house and employing the teacher to educate A's child? Upon a careful consideration of the principle involved, there certainly can be no difference of opinion as to the justice and propriety of compelling parents and guardians to send the children under their care to the schools provided by the State for the education of the children of the State.

AMERICA NOT THE NEW WORLD

Recent scientific explorations in Kansas, Wyoming, Nebraska and Dakota tend to demonstrate that America, instead of being the new world, is in reality many ages older than the Eastern Continent, and that the Far West was once inhabited by races greatly resembling the present people of Asia and Africa, with whose tropical regions its climate once corresponded. Professor HAYDEN, the eminent geologist and savan, whose explorations and interesting discoveries in the Yellowstone Valley are familiar to our readers, in a report of the United States Geological Survey of the Territories, for the past year, records many convincing facts resulting from research and exploration, proving the above mentioned theories, and avers that these and other important discoveries made during the past two decades enable the geologist to reconstruct the physical history of the barren, traceless plains of the Far West.

From evidences deduced from disentombments by the action of the elements, the vast pre-historic burial grounds of the extensive Rocky Mountain and Pacific coast valleys reveal the fact that a gigantic chain of fresh water lakes covered the western surface of our continent, extending in a greater or less degree from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean, and from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean. The "Maurais Terres," or "Bad Lands," of Nebraska, Dakota and Colorado, which embrace an area of 100,000 to 150,000 square miles, formed the basin of enormous lakes, abounding in fossil remains of amphibious quadrupeds, as the hypopotamus, an animal greatly resembling the hippopotamus, or river horse of the Nile, the titanotherium, a mammoth pachyderm, or thick skinned animal, of the rhinoceros species, mastadons and elephants, and an endless variety of turtles, the harder portions of which are in as perfect a state of preservation as when, animated with life, they were swimming about in the "tertiary waters hundreds of thousands of years ago." Associated with the fossil remains of the turtles, many species of "ruminants" of extinct genera were discovered possessing characteristics peculiar to the deer and the hog, which Dr. LEIDY calls "ruminating hogs," and which, like the domestic variety, were provided with cutting teeth and canines, while the grinding teeth are similar to those of living ruminants. The feet of these animals possessed four toes, and all were devoid of horns or antlers. They existed in immense herds like the buffaloes of the western prairies, and were infinite in variety, seven hundred individuals of one species having been already discovered and described by Dr. LEIDY.

In 1857, the fossil remains of remarkable cemeteries were found on the Nebraska river, whose disentombment revealed numerous species of extinct camels and horses, the latter varying in size from the ordinary horse of the present time to that of a Newfoundland dog. Twenty-seven species known to have existed anterior to the advent of man, have been classified by the industrious and persevering naturalist above mentioned. Several species of foxes, cats, hyenas, tigers, beavers, porcupines, rabbits, and mice were also identified. During the past summer quite as wonderful discoveries were made in Wyoming and Kansas, under the direction of Professor COPE, where one hundred species of animals were identified, somewhat resembling those before alluded to, although many of these ranging from the size of the mole to that of the elephant; were new to science in some particulars. Of the mole family, specimens were found infinitessimal in size, and yet in a marvelous state of preservation, while of the gnawing animals or rodents to which rats and mice belong, eighteen varieties were found, some of which preceded rabbits, others squirrels and still others mice. Of cloven-footed quadrupeds, the variety was still greater, some being intermediate in size between the deer and the hog, others as large as sheep and from that down to the size of gray squirrels. Seven varieties of the Rhinoceros are known to have existed in Colorado, and discoveries in other parts of the far West of gigantic monsters of the past, resembling the elephant in size, with huge horns over the eyes, others with expanded cheek bones and flat horns, and still others with tri-angular horns turned outward, all hitherto unknown to students of the natural history of the antedeluvian world, demonstrate the great antiquity of the Western Continent, and the extreme changes its physical formation and climate have undergone during the lapse of the unknown ages of the earth, anterior to the creation of man.

THE NEW LIQUOR LAW IN VIRGINIA.

Judge CRANMER, of the Municipal Court of Wheeling, rendered an important decision last week under the new liquor law of Virginia, passed last winter. One MICHAEL GAFFENEY had sued a saloon keeper named VIEWIG for selling him intoxicating liquors, which he drank, and from the effects of which he fell from a window to the ground, receiving severe injuries, for which he claimed damages in the sum of $3,000. In rendering his decision, the Court held that by the first section of the law it is made unlawful to sell or give away intoxicating liquors, unless a bond, as therein prescribed, be first given. The sale of liquors, however, under the conditions mentioned, is recognized as lawful, except in cases enumerated in the third section of the law, viz: to minors, persons already intoxicated, or persons in the habit of becoming intoxicated. This third section of the act designates the parties to whom it is lawful to sell, and the sixth designates the particular persons who may sustain an action against the offending party or parties, viz, any husband, wife, parent, child, guardian or employer. If the construction claimed by the plaintiff prevailed, great violence would be done to the intention of the Legislature, which recognized the sale of intoxicating liquors in the title of the act, but intended, according to the title, to provide only against the evils resulting therefrom. Both the title and the act would be inconsistant if every one who became intoxicated in some saloon, and then brought suit for damages for loss of time and wages could recover. The law never lends itself as an instrument to work injustice, by giving a right to recover damages to one who is the agent of his own wrong, it not being the natural result of the defendant's act. It is a well established principle of law that "damage will be too remote when it is caused wholly or principally by the act of the plaintiff himself." The Court concluded by declaring that "the demurrer must be sustained, on the ground that the party contributing to his own injury voluntarily, is the one on whom rests the blame, and not the defendant, because in the ordinary course of things, such consequences as resulted to the plaintiff, do not ordinarily flow from the act of the defendant, who is pursuing a business made lawful by the statute."

THE TIMES AND THE CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.

The New York *Times* has had some difficulty to get its bearings on the Chief Justiceship. When the President nominated Attorney-General WILLIAMS, the *Times* seemed disposed to think well of the selection; but when the storm grew thick about the head of the nominee and the Senate gave out hints that he could not be confirmed, the *Times* announced that the entire bar was opposed to WILLIAMS and conveyed the impression that it was opposed to his nomination. Finally it became convinced that he would be confirmed, when it stated most positively that all the charges against the Attorney-General had been or would be shown to be groundless, and that he would be confirmed. We have given this little sketch of the course of the *Times* relative to the nomination of WILLIAMS that the reader may better appreciate the following reference made by that journal to the nomination of CUSHING for Chief Justice:

Mr. Caleb Cushing's fortunes seem to be in the ascendant. A few days ago he was nominated as Minister to Spain. Now he receives the nomination as Chief Justice. As a supporter of the Dred Scott decision, as an advocate of the slave power, as a Whig who became a Democrat, as a politician whose place was never fixed from one week to another, as a gentleman who strongly objected to hear the patriotic tunes of the North during the war, as a partisan of the cause which the Northern people detested—in all these capacities Mr. Cushing has distinguished himself. It can scarcely be his achievements in these directions which have moved the President to select him as Chief Justice. When we get a Chief Justice of secessionist proclivities in the Supreme Court, it may fare badly with Gen. Sherman—perhaps even with Gen. Grant himself. The entire proceedings of Congress since the war may be called in question. It is said that Mr. Cushing will be acceptable to the Bar. We do not suppose that the Democrats will oppose him. There is no reason why they should do so. But for our own parts, we are unable to explain or justify Mr. Cushing's nomination, and therefore we shall not attempt to do either. We can only regard the present game of blindman's-buff in reference to the Chief Justiceship with surprise and mortification.

☞ The German Government exercises strict watchfulness over the pulpit and the press of that country. It is stated that spies attend every church and take down any and every remark made by the preacher in relation to the Government. It is only by crushing out the freedom of the press and the pulpit that even the mildest form of tyranny can keep its head above ground, and the people of Germany are rapidly approaching the point where they will be emancipated from this and all other oppressions incident to the maintainance of monarchy.

☞ The Illinois Legislature has resolved that the Representatives in Congress from that State be requested to favor the repeal of the salary law.

PREVENTION OF RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

The Governor of Illinois urges upon the Legislature of that State, the necessity of such action as will tend in the future to the prevention of railroad accidents, citing the needless and terrible collision on the Chicago & Alton Road last summer, to point out the need of greater precaution. Those conversant with the management of railroads, aver that accidents, in nine cases out of ten, are the result of carelessness, which with ordinary caution can always be prevented. London journals complain of the needlessly dangerous conditions under which the Railroad traffic of Great Britain is conducted, which during the past year show a great increase in the maimed and injured over previous years, and say almost all danger and loss of life could be prevented by observing the simple rule, that no train should be allowed to pass a given point, until another train ahead on the same metals, had passed the next telegraphing point, be it station or signal box in front of it. The leading press of our country advocate a system of registration or license, by which every railroad company can, to a certain extent, be posted regarding the antecedents of employes, claiming that railway service demands that only the most cautious, prudent and competent persons should be employed, and those who have manifested unfitness for it on one road should not be enabled to procure a situation on another, and that every precaution requisite to prevent loss of life should be used and enforced, and when neglected be punished by heavy fines and imprisonments. The legislation which the needs of Illinois and Great Britain demand, would not be amiss in Ohio, and as to that matter, every State in the Union intersected by railroads, nor is legislation alone sufficient, since without the enforcement of laws after their enactment, they are of no account.

ABOLITION IN CUBA.

Before the overthrow of the CASTELAR Government, the abolition of slavery in Cuba gave promise of being speedily accomplished. The brutal massacre of the *Virginius* had broken the power and strength of the local leaders and the Cassino, both of whom had ruled with despotic sway. The determined and warlike attitude of our Government, the ready acquiesence of Spain to its demands, and the friendly and cordial relations which were foreshadowed under the regime of our Representative, the Hon. CALEB CUSHING, gave every reason to hope that slavery in the Antilles had received its death-blow, and would within the course of a year or two be wholly eradicated.

The *coup d'etat* of General PAVIA and the inauguration of the SERRANO administration, may tend to delay this and other promised reforms in the Spanish possessions of the West Indies, which were in so fair a way to become speedily established under the regime of the enlightened and liberal CASTELAR. While this is a matter of profound regret to every lover of freedom, the institution of human slavery is so directly at variance with the spirit of the age, that its long perpetuation is scarcely possible, whatever protection it may receive from Spain, which, torn by internecine strife, is in no condition to afford aid to Cuba in the event of an insurrection of the slaves, which under existing circumstances is possible, if not probable.

It is to be hoped, however, that the present Government of Spain will not be so short sighted, and so blinded to their own interests, as to abandon the enlightened and humane policy of its predecessor, and that the amicable relations existing between the United States and that country will not be interrupted, but that negotiations for the happy adjudication of international differences will continue until satisfactorily adjusted. As a hopeful evidence of these happy results in the future, recent advices from Cuba confirm previous telegrams and letters stating that the abolition question was being seriously discussed among slave owners, who proposed various feasible plans for the gradual manumission of their slaves, without suddenly and seriously injuring the agricultural prosperity of the island. The members of the HAVANA ABOLITION SOCIETY are steadily increasing and the current of public opinion drifting towards the eventual enfranchisement of the negro race.

PINE TIMBER.

The great demand for pine lumber in all sections of the country, and the rapidity with which it is consumed, has caused no little interest to center in all questions relating to the supply yet in reserve. Some one who has taken an interest in the question has collected statistics upon this point, covering the entire pine forests of the United States, with the following result:

Maine	1,500,000,000
New York	00,000,000
Pennsylvania	7,000,000,000
Michigan	50,000,000,000
Minnesota	18,000,000,000
Wisconsin	16,000,000,000
West Virginia	7,000,000,000
Virginia (yellow pine)	120,000,000
South Carolina (yellow pine)	90,000,000
North Carolina	1,000,000,000
Florida (yellow pine)	1,000,000,000
Georgia (yellow pine)	1,500,000,000
Total	105,110,000,000
The Dominion forests, say	70,000,000,000
Total east of Rocky mountains	178,440,000,000
West of the mountains, say	70,000,000,000
Total North America	248,440,000,000

The statistician regards this timber as worth two dollars per thousand feet as it stands; and says: "Add ten dollars per thousand worth of labor to it, and we have the pretty little figure of $2,981,-180,000."

☞ If Congress would establish uniform and reasonable rates of interest throughout the country and provide the people with a way in which currency may be obtained to meet the wants of trade, let them provide for the issue of greenbacks on the deposit of Government bonds, upon such conditions as may prevent "inflation."

☞ The House Committee on Appropriations expresses the belief that the clerical force of the Departments at Washington can be reduced forty per cent. If true, it does not speak very well for the economy of the heads of those Departments. We predict that no such reduction will take place.

BAZAAINE AND HULL.

A contemporary finds many points of resemblance between the unfortunate Marshal of France and General WILLIAM HULL, of revolutionary renown, in our own country. Gen. HULL was a native of Connecticut and fought with great gallantry and heroism under General WASHINGTON. For eminent services as a soldier and a patriot, he was awarded a vote of thanks by Congress and personally honored by his Commander-in-Chief. During our last war with Great Britain, President JEFFERSON appointed him Governor of the Territory Michigan. He mustered an army and advanced upon Detroit, from whence he marched into Canada, and returning occupied the fort, and after putting it in proper defense, awaited the approach of the British, who in a few days made their appearance under the command of General BROCK demanding unconditional surrender, when HULL, without striking a blow, acceded to their request, hauling down the American flag and submitting to other indignities and national dishonor. As a punishment he was court-martialled and sentenced to be shot for cowardice, but at the intercession of his old comrades in arms, the President interposed his clemency on the plea of his past eminent services and his extreme age. HULL survived the disgrace of his trial twelve years, and maintained his innocence so successfully that the Bostonians gave him a public dinner a year before his death. While it was avowed that many extenuating circumstances were advanced to palliate his unwarrantable conduct, these were not given to the public, and he died under the cloud which his trial had cast over his hitherto brave name. It is to be hoped that the disgraced Marshal of France will be more successful in removing the blemish from his military escutcheon, since with the unsettled government of France at the time of the surrender of Metz, his duty was less plain, as he followed the example of his acknowledged ruler, and no proof of intentional treason was manifest, he sincerely believing that he was acting with loyalty to that Government under whose power he held his appointment. These and other developments of his trial furnished satisfactory evidence to many reflective, unprejudiced minds that Marshal BAZAINE'S reputation was sacrificed rather to national vanity than national love of justice.

FALLACIOUS COMMERCIAL GAMBLING.

Metropolitan journals are calling attention to a game of chance which has long been in existence among heavy eastern importing firms, largely influencing if not directly precipitating failures, whose causes erroneously are assigned to monetary panics, when in fact, were business conducted upon the legitimate profits and losses of trade, uninfluenced by such great risks, no temporary stringency of the money market could produce disastrous effects. Several wealthy importers of long experience have admitted that for years their business houses have been unable to meet expenses, because the wares in which they dealt cost more on the dock in New York than they could be sold for in American markets. The natural supposition would be a suspension of importion until the supply fell below demand and trade resumed its natural channels. Nevertheless this has not been the case, importation continuing, buyers going abroad and purchasing goods at prices which, with the addition of freight and insurance, exceed what they can be sold for in Boston, New York, or Philadelphia, with the hope that by some commercial legerdemain, prices will advance sufficiently, to not only make up the loss for past deficits, by their increase, to render the profits so great that large fortunes may be the expected result.

This abnormal and unhealthy feature is reported as affecting not only importers but many other commercial avocations, the practice being quite common to purchase goods, not for the profit which current prices promise, but with the risk of a sudden and great advance, thereby diverting the legitimate channels of trade into gambling, whose success is dependent upon the chances of great risks, and causing commerce to cease to be an exchange of commodities between producer and consumer, called into existence and prosperity by the necessities of both, and in which the profits of the merchant are derived directly from the advance which immediate sales bring. The New York *Times*, in alluding to this fallacious policy, truthfully remarks that trade under such circumstances is no longer controlled by sagacious calculation of permanent and legitimate needs; it is controlled in part by the recklessness of dealers in taking great risks, and in part by their ability to manipulate the market in such a way as to cause violent, sudden, and arbitrary fluctuations, not of values, but of prices. This is not trade, it is gambling. It is the reproduction in the field of commerce of some of the tactics of the Stock Exchange and the Gold Board, and of that portion of their tactics which they have borrowed from the faro-table and the keno den.

It is not difficult to comprehend that successful business arrangements can not be based upon such fallacious foundations, and that sooner or later inevitable failures must be the result, whose cause can neither be attributed to periodical financial panics, or temporary monetary stringency.

☞ The Berlin University is fast losing its popularity with the Germans. The professors who gave it reputation have about all left it, MOMMSEN, the celebrated historian, being the last. The number of students has diminished rapidly, there having been a falling off of over one hundred in the medical students alone, during the past year.

☞ The wise financial philosophers of the present day argue that the less money there is, the less debts will be incurred. Just so; credit out of the reach of the poor man when there is no money to be had. Scarcity of currency has the effect to concentrate both money and credit in the hands of the few, who can lord it over to the masses at will.

RADWAY'S PREPARATIONS.

The Wonders of Modern Chemistry.

SARSAPARILLIAN AND ITS ASSOCIATES.

CHANGES AS SEEN AND FELT AS THEY DAILY OCCUR,

After Using a Few Doses of

DR. RADWAY'S

SARSAPARILLIAN RESOLVENT

The Great Blood Purifier.

1. Good spirits, disappearance of weakness, languor, melancholy; increase and hardness of flesh and muscles, etc.

2. Strength increases, appetite improves, relish for food, no more sour eructations or waterbrash, good digestion, calm and undisturbed sleep, awaken fresh and vigorous.

3. Disappearance of spots, blotches, pimples; the skin looks clear and healthy, the urine changed from its turbid and cloudy appearance to a clear sherry or amber color, water passes freely from the bladder through the urethra without pain or scalding; little or no sediment; no pain or weakness.

4. Marked diminution of quantity and frequency of involuntary weakening discharges (if afflicted that way), with certainty of permanent cure. Increased strength exhibited in the secreting glands and functional harmony restored to the several organs.

5. Yellow tinge on the white of the eyes, and the swarthy, saffron appearance of the skin changed to a clear, lively and healthy color.

6. Those suffering from weak or ulcerated lungs or tubercles will realize great benefit in expectorating freely the tough phlegm or mucous from the lungs, air-cells, bronchi or windpipe, throat or head; diminishing of the frequency of cough; general increase of strength throughout the system, stoppage of night sweat and pains and feeling of weakness around the ankles, legs, shoulders, etc.; cessation of cold and chills, sense of suffocation; hard breathing and paroxysms of cough on lying down or arising in the morning. All these distressing symptoms gradually and surely disappear.

7. As day after day the SARSAPARILLIAN is taken, new signs of returning health will appear; as the blood improves in strength and purity disease will diminish, and all foreign and impure deposits, nodes, tumors, cancers, hard lumps, etc., be resolved away and the unsound made sound and healthy; ulcers, fever sores, syphilitic sores, chronic skin diseases gradually disappear.

8. In cases where the system has been salivated, and Mercury, Quicksilver, Corrosive Sublimate have accumulated and become deposited in the bones, joints, etc., causing caries of the bones, rickets, spinal curvatures, contortions, white swellings, varicose veins, etc., the SARSAPARILLIAN will resolve away these deposits and exterminate the virus of the disease from the system.

9. If those who are taking these medicines for the cure of Chronic, Scrofulous, or Syphilitic diseases, however slow may be the cure, "feel better," and find their general health improving, their flesh and weight increasing or even keeping its own, it is a sure sign that the cure is progressing. In these diseases the patient either gets better or worse—the virus of the disease is not inactive; if not arrested and driven from the blood, it will spread and continue to undermine the constitution. As soon as the SARSAPARILLIAN makes the patient "feel better" every hour you will grow better and increase in health, strength, and flesh.

The great power of this remedy is in diseases that threaten death—as in CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS and Tuberculous Phthisis, Scrofula, Syphiloid Diseases, Wasting, Degeneration and Ulceration of the Kidneys, Diabetes, Stoppage of Water Instantaneous relief afforded where catheters have to be used, thus doing away with the painful operation of using these instruments, dissolving stone in the bladder, and in all cases of Inflammation of the Bladder and Kidneys in Chronic cases of Leucorrhea and Uterine diseases.

In tumors, nodes, hard lumps, and syphiloid ulcers; in dropsy; in venereal sore throat, ulcers, and in tubercles of the lungs; in gout, dyspepsia, rheumatism, rickets; in mercurial deposits—it is in these terrible forms of disease, where the human body has become a complete wreck, and where every hour of existence is torture, wherein this great remedy challenges the astonishment and admiration of the sick. It is in such cases, where all the pleasures of existence appear cut off from the unfortunate, and by its wonderful, almost supernatural agency it restores the hopeless to a new life and new existence where this great remedy stands alone in its might and power.

In the ordinary skin diseases that every one is more or less troubled with, a few doses will in most cases, and a few bottles in the more aggravated forms, work a permanent cure.

Those afflicted with chronic diseases should purchase a package containing one dozen bottles. Price—$10 per dozen, or $5 per half dozen bottles, or $1 per bottle. Sold by druggists.

R. R. R.

Radway's Ready Relief

CURES THE WORST PAINS

In from One to Twenty Minutes.

NOT ONE HOUR.

after reading this advertisement, need any one SUFFER WITH PAIN.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF IS A CURE FOR EVERY PAIN.

It was the first and is

The Only Pain Remedy

that instantly stops the most excruciating pains, allays Inflammations, and cures Congestions, whether of the Lungs, Stomach, Bowels, or other glands or organs, by one application.

IN FROM ONE TO TWENTY MINUTES, no matter how violent or excruciating the pain, the Rheumatic, Bed-ridden, Infirm, Crippled, Nervous, Neuralgic, or prostrated with disease may suffer.

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

WILL AFFORD INSTANT EASE.

INFLAMMATION OF THE KIDNEYS, INFLAMMATION OF THE BLADDER, INFLAMMATION OF THE BOWELS, CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS, SORE THROAT, DIFFICULT BREATHING, PALPITATION OF THE HEART, HYSTERICS, CROUP, DIPTHERIA, CATARRH, INFLUENZA, HEADACHE, TOOTHACHE, NEURALGIA, RHEUMATISM, COLD CHILLS, AGUE CHILLS.

The application of the READY RELIEF to the part or parts where the pain or difficulty exists, will afford ease and comfort.

Twenty drops in half a tumbler of water will in a few moments, cure CRAMPS, SPASMS, SOUR STOMACH, HEARTBURN, SICK HEADACHE, DIARRHEA, DYSENTERY, COLIC, WIND IN THE BOWELS and all INTERNAL PAINS.

Travelers should always carry a bottle of RADWAY'S READY RELIEF with them. A few drops in water will prevent sickness or pains from change of water. It is better than French Brandy or Bitters as a stimulant.

FEVER AND ACUE.

FEVER AND AGUE cured for fifty cents.—There is not a remedial agent in this world that will cure Fever and Ague, and all other Malarious, Bilious, Scarlet, Typhoid, Yellow, and other Fevers (aided by RADWAY'S PILLS) so quick as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Fifty cent per bottle.

DR. RADWAY'S

PERFECT PURGATIVE

AND

REGULATING PILLS

perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated with sweet gum, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. Radway's Pills for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Headache, Constipation, Costiveness, Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Bilious Fever, Inflammation of the Bowels, Piles, and all Derangements of the Internal Viscera. Warranted to effect a positive cure. Purely Vegetable, containing no mercury, minerals, or deleterious drugs.

☞ Observe the following symptoms resulting from Disorders of the Digestive Organs:

Constipation, Inward Piles, Fullness of the Blood in the Head, Acidity of the Stomach, Nausea, Heartburn, Disgust of Food, Fullness or Weight in the Stomach, Sour Eructations, Sinking or Fluttering at the Pit of the Stomach, Swimming of the Head, Hurried and Difficult Breathing, Fluttering at the Heart, Choking or Suffocating Sensations when in a Lying Posture, Dimness of Vision, Dots or Webs before the Sight, Fever and Dull Pain in the Head, Deficiency of Perspiration, Yellowness of the Skin and Eyes, Pain in the Side, Chest and Limbs, and sudden Flushes, of Heat, Burning in the Flesh.

A few doses of RADWAY'S PILLS will free the system from all the above named disorders. Price, 25c. per box. Sold by Druggists.

READ "FALSE AND TRUE." Send one letter-stamp to RADWAY & CO., No. 87 Maiden Lane, New York, information worth thousands will be sent you.

To Our Correspondents.

Questions for this department of the BLADE should be written plainly, and on one side of the sheet only. They should be kept separate from communications regarding subscriptions, books, specimen copies, and other matters of a purely business character. The latter either should be written on a separate sheet, or with a blank line dividing them from the questions. The full name and address should accompany each letter.

E. M. H., Lagrange, Ind., wishes to know the address of F. W. Butterfield, formerly of Bucyrus, Ohio. "Locke & Jones, Messrs" (or Gentlemen) is correct.

B. RAGAN, Glensdale, your question was answered recently. Concerning the name 'Black,' we do not know how any pronunciation could be given it but that of plain *Black*. Possibly the person answering to that name prefers to have it pronounced differently, like the gentleman in the anecdote related of Chas. Dickens, who was one day dining with a friend. Among the guests was a Mr. Reach, who corrected Mr. Dickens' pronunciation of his name by saying it should be in two syllables, as if spelled Re-ack. Mr. Dickens accepted the amendment silently, but soon brought out a laugh by saying, in clear tones: Mr. *Re-ack*, I will trouble you for a *pe-ack* (peach).

DRY FORK READER, Edmonton, Kentucky, "wishes to know the whereabouts of H. C. Stillings, who left Knoxville, Tenn., in Sept., 1869, for Illinois."

L. S. A., Western Home.—We do not know what disposition has been made of Captain Jack's body. Our impression is, that only the head was taken to Washington.—It is perfectly proper, and courtesy rather demands, that a lady express her thanks to the gentleman who has afforded her an escort, and it is no less courteous and natural for the gentleman to reply that it has only been a pleasure to him, or that he feels thanks are due *her* for allowing him the pleasure. When leave-taking, previous to starting on a journey, if a person wishes you a safe and pleasant journey, 'I thank you," is all that is necessary. A gentleman should allow a lady to pass through a gate or door first. As to the relative amount of happiness found in single or married life, opinions vary, but if two persons are thoroughly in love with each other and congenial, and each cares a little more for the other's happiness than his or her own, there can be no doubt in favor of married life, but as Anna Dickinson says, "it depends on the man."

J. P. FARMER.—The initials D. V. stand for the Latin words *Deo Volente*, meaning, "God being willing." We thank you for your good words.

W. S. H., Millersburg, Pa.—Your questions concerning Universalism have been recently answered in this column.

W. W. R., Mountain City, Nev.—To obtain seeds from the Agricultural Department, address Frederick Watts, Com. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

H. S. S., Glasgow,—Cadmus brought the Phonician letters, fifteen in number, into Greece, probably in 1493 B. C. These letters were originally either Hebrew, Phœnician, or Assyrian characters, and changed in form gradually till they became the ground of the Roman letters now used. There are but twenty letters in the Italian alphabet, while the Chinese language boasts 214 radical characters.

W. T., Grand Centre, Kansas, asks for a good recipe for hard soap; and another correspondent (of Auburn, Ill.) asks "Where is there a factory for making the new 'patent Butter,' or where can I get the recipe for making it?" Don't invest.

A READER OF THE BLADE.—To have old files re-cut, address Bradley & Peckham, Toledo, Ohio.

GEO F. E., Van Ettenville, N. Y.—They are one and the same person. Yes, the lecture entitled "Cussed be Canaan," has been published.—Ask your book seller for it or address.

E. C. MCK., (no State given.)—The term "Elliot Professor" probably means a Professor occupying a chair endowed by a man named Elliot.

ANONYMOUS, Okolona.—According to the laws of Ohio, if a man dies without children, and leaves no will, his widow has an absolute claim to one-third of his personal property, and a life estate in one-third of his real property, the parents, brothers and sisters inheriting the rest. She can hold all his property if it is left to her by will.

LIZZIE, Commerce, Mich.—There is no so great demand for teachers in the South as there was three years ago. For further information; address Gen. John Eaton, Com. Education, Washington, D. C.

THOS. K., Ottawa, Ill.—The following recipe for Liquid Jet Blacking for boots etc., is very highly recommended: "Ivory black and molasses of each, ¼ pound; oil of vitriol, 1 oz.; sweet oil, 2 ozs.; sour beer, 1 pint; mix the first two and oil together till the oil is perfectly killed, then slowly add the vitriol diluted with 8 times its weight of water; mix well let it stand 3 hours and make of proper consistency with the beer." Equal parts of jeweler's rouge, black lead, and prepared suet, are recommended as a good paste for razors.—Go to Montana territory, if you have a good opening, but do not go any place where you haven't a pretty good prospect in advance, of making a living.

INQUIRING MIND, Suffield, Conn.—To develop the inscription on worn coins, heat them gradually and the inscription will in almost all cases make its appearance.

R. L. E., Wilmington, Cal.—Golgotha is a Hebrew word meaning "the place of a skull." It is the same as our word Calvary—or rather Calvary is the Latin translation of Golgotha. It is a little hill on the north of Jerusalem, just outside the walls. "Hari Kari," we believe, is of Chinese origin, and means suicide. When we say of a man who has made an unfortunate step (politically, more especially) he has committed Hari Kari, we mean he is politically dead. Vendetta is from the Italian and refers to the code or law of vengeance which required one member of a family to kill the murderer of a brother or one of near kin: politically it means a slaughter.

MISS TRIN HUBBELL, Butler, Ind.—There is no law to prevent a Jew becoming a member of the Legislature of Ohio. We are personally cognizant of instances of this kind.

R. M. W., Athol, Wis.—Naptha is a volatile, limpid, bituminous liquid, lighter than water, of a peculiar odor, and usually of a light yellow color—found in coal deposits principally. It is a compound of carbon and hydrogen and very inflammable. Coal naptha is produced by the artificial distillation of coal tar. It is also called rock oil. We know nothing of the store you refer to.

R. W. E., White House.—Euchre is quite generally played at social gatherings, and it is a mooted question whether it is wrong or not. It must be largely a matter of conscience and church rules. Common politeness, and even neatness, would forbid one's moistening his fingers when turning leaves of a book, shuffling cards, etc. Never lean back in your chair at table, or in the presence of ladies. The habit of picking one's teeth at table is a relic of barbarism; you would not do it (or should not, at least,) in any house where refined people live. Business letters are not begun close to the edge of the sheet. Your writing is excellent.

MRS. ARTHUR C., Westfield, Pa.—For "Betsey and I are Out," address Harper & Bro., New York.

A CONSTANT READER, Minzo Station, Ky.—The franking privilege (allowed members of Congress and certain heads of Departments) was exercised by simply writing the name on mail matter, packages of seeds, etc., thus exempting them from postage.

S. E. H., Oak Dale, Neb.—The popular name of John Bull, applied to Englishmen, was first used by Dean Swift—though by some it is thought to have originated from Dr. Arbuthnot's novel, "John Bull."

HORATIO S., Hampshire, Ills.—It now appears that our statement regarding the stamp on matches was premature. It had been agreed by the Committee on Ways and Means that in the new law under consideration, the stamp duty on matches should be removed.—But since the re-assembling of Congress (Jan. 5th) this committee have decided to report against the removal of the match tax, which invalidates the answer given you last week.

POSER.—The usual rule for constructing the main-mast of a ship, is to make its length equal to half the sum of the lead water line, and of the main breadth of the vessel, and also twice the breadth added to the the depth. The convexity of the earth is the reason of our seeing the mast of a vessel first. The convexity of the earth's surface loosely stated, is about one inch per mile, but scientific men have calculated this with great accuracy.—How far a ship can be seen with the naked eye depends upon a great many qualifying circumstances.

A SUBSCRIBER, Mansfield, O.—You will find many valuable hints about household matters in the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL, published by Locke & Jones, Toledo, Ohio. The interchange of thought between older and experienced people, will be especially valuable to a young house-keeper. Send us your name and we will send you a specimen copy free.

A CONSTANT READER, Clyde, N. Y.—We think in driving on the highway, outside of cities or village streets, you would have the right to drive as close to the fence as you could get if the road was better there than in the middle of the street. Your hand writing is below the average.

J. C., Moorefield, O.—The action you enquire about, of itself, means nothing; but the circumstances under which it was done and the manner of doing it, might make it have some meaning. You are able to judge of these much better than we are.

G. V. W., Miller's Station.—There are several works on book-keeping published, perhaps Bryant & Stratton's is as good as any. You can address them at New York. Book-keepers wages vary all the way from six hundred dollars a year up to two thousand dollars, but there are a score working for the smaller sum to one who receives the largest. If our correspondent supposes he can buy a book and fit himself for a book-keeper's place, we fear he will be disappointed.

J. M.—The "Brother Jonathan" paper has been dead for some years, we think. You hand is not yet formed, but by practice you would make a good writer.

W. G. G., Logansport, Ind.—For the "Small Fruit Recorder" address A. M. Purdy, Palmyra, N. Y.

A READER, Toledo, Ohio.—Steamers make the trip from New Orleans to England in from fifteen to eighteen days.

EAGLEVILLE.—You would not have to pay duty on a set of silver that has been in use two years.

A. B. DODGE.—We are glad to help our readers in any way in our power. In answer to your first question, we think it quite safe to say that the heirs of Anneke Jans will hardly succeed in recovering the Trinity Church property. 2d. The color of the Arabian horse most popular is a white or spotted gray, but we suppose the ordinary horses vary as much in color as do our own animals.

J. W., Napoleon, Ind.—There is no "legal hindrance" to the teaching of Phonography by mail, but it would be nearly impossible to so teach it. See answers in late papers as to the study of this science. Your writing is excellent.

LAFAR, Long Point, Ill.—We know of no address that would help you. Why not put a short advertisement in the BLADE? Some one of our many readers may have just what you want.

R., Friendship, Wis.—We believe Harriet Beecher Stowe is a member of the Congregational Church.

REV. J. HALLOWELL, Raymond, Iowa, writes: "The book entitled, 'Wonders of the World' came safely to hand and gives good satisfaction. It is interesting and valuable for both young and old." And he asks, "Where can the complete works of Audubon be had and price of same?" Address a line to D. Appleton & Co., New York City.

SCHOOL BOY.—We could not give up the space it would require to reply to your questions as to vulgar and decimal fractions, for such questions are answered in every common-school arithmetic.

SUBSCRIBER, Rockton, Ill.—Address, "Harness and Carriage Journal," New York City.

P. H. V., Augusta, Ark.—To explain our views on the "Darwinian Theory" would take more space than we could spare in these columns. We think the work is in two volumes and published at $2 per volume. Address D. Appleton & Co., New York City.

A SUBSCRIBER, Stark county.—We have answered all of your questions before. Yes, foolscap paper will answer for manuscript, although note or letter is preferable. A "plain, legible hand" is all that is required. We repeat what we have so often announced in these columns, we pay for stories according to their merit, and are always glad to get *good* stories. We have more ordinary stories in hand now than we can use in a year.

A READER, Poole's Mills, Ky.—Enquires where the term "School-butter" originated. The word is new to us. Can any of our readers give us any information on the subject?

P. B. B., Durlach, Penn.—Our correspondent's columns are for the use of our subscribers. There are a number of flour mills about Toledo, but we know nothing of the wages they pay or whether they want any additional help. The government does not hold itself responsible for deposits in national banks. It simply guarantees the bills issued by the banks.

AVIS, Pana, Ill.—Your question as to the hunter and squirrel has already been answered in these columns.

A READER OF THE BLADE, New Albion, Iowa.—We refer you to the Iowa University, Iowa City. 2. "If a lady spends the evening with your sister, will courtesy command you to see her home against your will?" Really, we don't know how that would be. A true gentlemen would be glad to do it, and you are a gentleman, are you not? Your handwriting is good.

W. W. B., Mooresville, Mo.—According to the law of July, 1872, the weight of packages of merchandise to be sent through the mails was limited to twelve ounces. Seeds or grain would not come under the head of "merchandise," however. There is no limit placed on them.

W. T. C., Almont, Mich.—Send to editor *Farm Journal*, Toledo, Ohio, and your article will receive attention.

J. S. O., Good Hope, O., asks, "Is there a paper published in the interest of machinists?" Yes. The *Scientific American*, New York City, is the best paper of the kind in the country, and an invaluable companion to men of any trade.

A. B. C., Union City, Ind.—We cannot give you the address you inquire for. Perhaps a line in our advertising columns would bring it to you.

A READER OF OUR PAPER, Vienna, N. Y.—Write to the head of the Department which you desire to enter, and he will send you a copy of the "Civil Service" rules and regulations. Or ask your member of Congress to send you such a copy.

A READER, Fairfield.—We think Governor Bramlette's reputation a sufficient guarantee that the gift concert will be conducted in an honest and honorable manner.

AN ADMIRER, Keosauqua, Iowa.—We cannot answer your question in this column. See answer to "Lafar."

D. W. H., Ligonier, Ind.—Your questions have already been answered in these columns. We will answer at once more, and hereafter shall refuse to occupy our columns with it.

The bill known as the "Salary Grab" was tacked on to the Appropriation bill at the eleventh hour of the session. Had President Grant vetoed it, the public business would have required an extra session of Congress which would have cost many times the amount of the salary steal. The list of members and their votes on the bill have been repeatedly published in the BLADE.

L. H. E., Raymond, Iowa.—The book is published by the Hartford Publishing Co., Hartford, Conn.

W. G. MC C., Monticello, Iowa.—The "American Naturalist" is published by Peabody Academy of Science, Salem, Mass., at $4 per year.

J. W. C., Mount Vernon, Ohio.—We have no knowledge of the article you enquire for. See answer to "Lafar" elsewhere.

A. W. GATES, Andover, Ohio.—Would be obliged to any of the readers of the BLADE who will tell him where game and fur bearing animals are plenty.

JOHNIE, Portland, Ind.—We think Pittman's "Manuel of Phonography" sells for $1. Address I. Pittman, Cincinnati, O. As to whether you can learn the science without a teacher, we refer you to back numbers of the BLADE where the question has been answered. We consider Webster's Dictionary the best.—Easter Sunday is honored because it was on that day Christ appeared to his disciples after his crucifixion. We think a boy who writes as good a hand as you do, ought to have known this.

L. E. P., Rulo, Neb.—We cannot give you the information you ask. See answer to "Lafar."

J. F. M.—The "Southern Review" is published at Columbia, S. C. We not remember the name of the editor.

ALMONT.—The tobacco tax is on *manufacturers* of tobacco. The farmer can sell his tobacco to whomsoever he pleases, and there is no tax for any amount, but after it is manufactured every one selling it, must pay a tax.

MRS. A. A. D., Huston, Iowa.—For a copy of the report of the Department of Agriculture, write to your member of Congress, or to the "Commissioner of Agriculture," Washington, D. C. We do not believe any sewing machines are sold on the terms you mention.

W. B. G.—Asks: "Was Simon who bore the cross after Christ a negro or a Jew?" St. Mark chapter 15, 21, says he was "a Cyrenean." Cyrenea answers to the modern Barca, a country of Africa. It was, in ancient times, a flourishing colony of the Greeks, having been settled by Iberians from the Island of Thera.

C. T. L., Williamsfield, O.—No—except to our contributors with whom we have already made engagements.

W. E., Iberis.—We know nothing about the sale you enquire for, and are not able to give an opinion.

P. E., Claysville.—We are not able to answer your question. See answer to "Lafar" elsewhere.

W. H. W., Sarcoxie, Mo.—We are sorry we cannot give you a decided "yes" or "no," but we have no means of knowing anything about the two physicians you enquire for.

SUBSCRIBER, Zanesville, O.—Address John Hay, care New York "Tribune," N. Y. "What wages do first-class traveling salesmen receive?" No two men are paid alike, we might say. Each man is paid according to his ability, and prices range all the way from $500 to $5,000.

MRS. S. R. Ashland, Ky., writes: "I received my 'Josephus' all right, and am well pleased with it. I received the dear old BLADE all right. It is the best of papers. And your 'National Monthly' is splendid." She says she is fifty-seven years old, but she sent us two subscribers last year beside her own. We thank you for your kind words and good offices. Your subscription for the "National Monthly" will not expire until November, 1874.

ALECK, Winchester, Ill.—The town where peace was concluded between William of Orange and Louis XIV is Ryswick and the year 1697. Ryswick is a village of the Netherlands, lying between Hague and Delft.

J. J., Eaton, Ind.—The President's salary is as much his own as J. J.'s wages are his. It is given him to pay his own expenses, and not to pay the expenses of others.

C. P. V.—The only paper published there is the "Bladen Springs (Ala.) Herald."

FRANK, Bradford, Iowa.—Our space is too valuable to be used for the purposes you suggest.

A. J. ALEXANDER.—We consider James Munson's "Complete Phonographer" a very excellent work. You can get it of Harper & Brothers, New York. We think the price is $2.

S. S. P., Lodi, O.—Your nearest point to reach a cavalry barracks would be at Newport, Ky.

A SUBSCRIBER, New Lebanon, asks, "Is there not a better chance for a young man studying Engineering than in the learned professions? Would a person with some knowledge of surveying but no practice, stand a chance of getting a situation under an Engineer where he would get wages and at the same time could study the profession? Is there a good opening in the West for a Surveyor? What work on Engineering would we recommend?" We give the questions entire, and we suppose many of our readers have more of just such questions they would like to ask us, particularly the young men. We will answer "subscriber's" questions, and ask our readers to apply these answers to any similar questions they have in mind. 1st. We think there is a better chance for a young man in the branch you name, providing he has a taste for it. 2d. No two men do business alike; what one would do another might not. We are not familiar enough with the common practice to decide, but we think it very probable you could find such a place at a moderate salary. 3d. There is a good opening in the West for men of brains and energy in any and all branches. 4th. "Mahan's Civil Engineering" is spoken of very highly.

E. D. M., Geneva, Ill.—Wishes to know the postoffice address of Elias Archard, who formerly wrote for the BLADE, and Gen. Sigel and Hooker. Elias Archard's address, we do not know. A letter addressed to the care of the "Army and Navy Journal," New York City, would undoubtedly find either of the two Generals enquired for. The back numbers of the BLADE for the years mentioned, cannot be furnished.

J. A. F., White Heath, Ill.—We have no means of knowing aught of the standing of the Medical Institution you enquire about.—The question in regard to the Oberlin Telegraph College has been answered several times.

B. Bevier Napanoch, (no State) asks us to send him, "a specimen of the Organ." We have no doubt he means something else. If he will write us again, giving county and State, and inform us what it is he means to say, we will be glad to accommodate him.

D. S. K., Elizabeth, N. C.—There is no way of spreading the fact you speak of but by advertising. We would suggest putting an advertisement in the BLADE, and sending us references that we may know it is all right, and we will put it in as good shape as we can. We are interested in getting cheap homes for the people, and will call attention to any such advertisements placed in our columns.

Some Transportation Projects.

Representative Hurlbut has introduced a bill chartering a double track freight Railway Company from the tide-water on the Atlantic to the Missouri River, and to limit the rates of freight thereon, which was referred to the Committee on Railways and Canals.

The first section provides for the corporation, a blank being left for the names of the corporators. The purpose and object of the corporation are declared to be to locate, contract, and build and operate a Railroad for freight only, with two tracks, from any convenient point on the Hudson River or Bay of New York, to the City of Council Bluffs, Iowa, or to such other convenient point on the east bank of the Missouri River in Iowa as shall offer the best connection with the system of Railroads west of the Missouri River. The line of said Railroad shall be established on the most direct and practicable route between said termini consistent with the requirements of commerce and proper accommodations of the largest number of people within reach of the line.

The construction of the road shall be commenced within a year from the passage of this act, and the main line completed within three years thereafter. The capital stock of the company shall not exceed 1,000,000 shares of $100 each. The powers of the corporation to be invested in a Board of Directors, consisting of not less than 13 nor more than 21 persons, who shall be stockholders. The surveys of the line of the road shall be instituted as soon as practicable, and diligently prosecuted, and the line established and adopted as nearly an air line between the termini named as the topography of the country will admit, with due regard to the economy of construction. The time fixed for the commencement and completion of the work shall be deemed and held as conditions in law for the continuance and life of the charter.

It is required that the road shall be laid with steel rails, or solid headed steel rails of not less than 68 pounds weight to the lineal yard, and the entire road to be constructed and operated in the best manner, besides branches to St. Louis and Chicago.

The corporation is authorized to construct such other branches as in the judgment of the Directors may answer its purposes, but not more than two branches shall be made on the same side of the main line in any one State. In case it be deemed advisable to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire any line of Railway, whether constructed or not, established under State charters or several laws, as a portion of their main line or branches, the Directors are authorized to do so, but in all cases the consent of the Legislature granting the charter shall first be had, expressed with form of law, unless such right be already recognized on the charter of said State, Railroad Company, or by the several laws of the State.

The corporation is to have the power to acquire by purchase, gift or condemnation, any land or real estate that may be necessary for their purpose.

The Road is declared constituted a public highway and post road, and every part of it shall be in all respects subject to the use of the United States for all purposes, postal, military and telegraphic.

The Company is authorized to construct and maintain telegraphic lines and sections as part of its franchises, subject to such rules and regulations as Congress may by law impose, fixing and restricting the charges of the Company, for the use of said telegraph by the Government and by private citizens.

One of the sections provides that the bulk of freight shall be deemed to be any and all articles of freight which are or may be placed in cars without packages by shipper, without handling by the Railroad Company, and by car loads, especially to cover and include coal, grain, all kind of provisions not in packages, lumber, ores, metals, and live stock for the market; and as to all such freight received in cars without handling by the Company in loading.

The maximum rates of freight allowed to be demanded, taken and received by the Company shall be at the rate of five mills per ton per mile for all distances exceeding 750 miles, and at a rate of six mills per ton per mile for distances less than 750 miles, and not exceeding 600 miles, at a rate of seven mills per ton for distances less than 600 and more than 400 miles, and at the rate of eight mills per ton per mile for distances less than 400 and not exceeding 300 miles, at nine mills per ton per mile for distances less than 300 and not exceeding 150 miles, and at one cent per ton per mile for distances less than 150 miles, provided that in the winter months said corporation be entitled to add one mill per ton per mile to said rate; and all other freights not included in the term bulk freights at such maximum rates as shall be fixed by a Commissioner to be appointed in the manner stated, provided that as to cars or trains of cars loaded with live stock the Company shall be entitled to a fair and reasonable extra compensation for delay and demurrage of cars and extra labor of handling, where such stoppage of cars or trains, or unloading of stock from the same, shall be necessary for the proper caring of the animals and compliance with the spirit, intent and meaning of the acts of Congress in said matter, such fair and reasonable compensation to be fixed by the Commission created by this bill.

A Commission of five persons is established, three of whom are to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice of the Senate, and two of the Commissioners, by the stockholders, who shall have full power to classify freight and fix the maximum charges on each class of freight and each article other than those hereinbefore stated, and who shall reduce the rates of freight on articles not herein numerated, as nearly as may be, in proportion of the reduction herein made on bulk freights from rates in force on the great East and West through lines on the 1st of January, 1874.

The United States, in consideration of the requirements of the bill, guarantees an interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, payable half yearly, upon a portion of the cost of the construction of the main line of the Road, but not to exceed in aggregate of ——— thousand dollars per mile of equivalent single track. The bonds so guaranteed shall not be sold or disposed of by the company except for cash, and at not less than 90 per cent. of their par value, and shall be payable at the city of New York, both principal and interest. A sinking fund to be created to reimburse the United States, etc.

This charter and all the privileges therein contained, are declared to be subject to the control of Congress as to modification, alteration or repeal of the same.

Representative Woodworth, of Ohio, introduced a bill which was referred to the Committee on Railroads and Canals, establishing a bureau of transportation, and to regulate the management of railroad and transportation companies employed in the inter-State commerce. It is proposed, among other things, to appoint one commissioner and four assistant commissioners, these officers to be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, for the term of five years. They are required to give bonds to the commissioner in the sum of $100,000, and to the assistants in the sum of $50,000 each, for the faithful performance of their duties, the commissioner to receive a salary of $6,000 and the assistants $4,000 per annum. The bureau is to be attached to the Interior Department. The commissioners are charged with the duty of causing to be observed, all laws of the United States relative to the transportation of freight and passengers over the railroads, or the consolidation of railroads that have terminative points in different States or territories, and relative to the management and operations of the same, the management and operation of all transfer companies engaged as common carriers of freight and passengers over such Railroads. In case any Railroad or Transportation Company shall wilfully refuse or neglect to obey any law of the United States, or to observe any order, decision, rule or regulation made by the Commissioner in pursuance of law, the same shall be deemed a sufficient cause to restrain such corporation from carrying on the business of common carrier so long as such refusal or neglect continues. The Commissioner to be invested with the power of arranging rates, charges for transportation of freight and passengers, having due regard to the weight, bulk, value, destructibility, distance and to such other matters as ought to be considered, as he may deem to be just as between such companies and their patrons, provided the rates, when charged and corrected at maximum, shall yield net earnings upon which to declare dividend amongst stockholders, estimating from the business of the preceding year, of not less than 10, or more than 15 per cent. upon the actual cost of all property of the Company.

The Utah Legislature.

The Territorial Legislature was organized on the 18th inst., and the Governor's message delivered on the 13th. It states that many of the laws being enforced were ordered by the General Assembly of the State of Deseret before the organization of the Territory by Congress. A system of common and free schools is recommended. Attention is called to the act of the Legislature giving the property left by deceased or absconded persons, without legal claimant, to the control of Treasurer of the Perpetual Emigration fund; also, to the act by which said fund is placed under the control of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints. It is said the Territorial Marshal is not and cannot be legally elected under the law as it now stands; that the jury law is defective, and that no panel can be drawn under the present law that will be legal; that the Attorney General, Marshal, Treasurer, Librarian, Auditor of the Public Accounts, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Wardens of Penitentiaries and Notaries Public were not nominated and confirmed in accordance with the organized act. Attention is called to the law authorizing the leasing of the Penitentiary Warden's house and other buildings, and he convicts to persons who may bid therefor, and to the spectacle of a penitentiary without a convict in it. No provision is made by law for the payment of the Territorial officers, payment being made by a relief bill after the service has been rendered. He urges the abolishment of the numbering of the ballot; recommends the repeal of the law of 1872, which declares that the right of dowry shall not exist in this Territory; asks for a memorial of a branch mint and geological survey; and states that the Territory is free from debt with over $35,000 in the Treasury.

Republican Caucus

An adjourned meeting of the caucus of the Republican Senators was held on the 13th. It was determined to give precedence to the discussion of the resolutions reported from the Finance Committee regarding the resumption of specie payments until the resolutions are disposed of, and then the bankruptcy bill and the Louisiana questions will be respectively taken up. The caucus also discussed the propriety of confirming Caleb Cushing's nomination to be Chief Justice, but reached no conclusion, and took no vote. It is understood Conkling and Edmunds made speeches advocating a confirmation, and it is rumored that Cameron spoke against it. The rumor is probably erroneous. A number of friends called on Mr. Cushing, and found him cheerful regarding the prospect of his confirmation. He is reported to have laughingly said that he would not be responsible for the results of the comments of the press on his nomination, as he had no hand in procuring it, and would accept the Senate's decision with equanimity.

The caucus of the Republican Senators was called especially to exchange views relative to the nomination of Caleb Cushing as Chief Justice, when it was discovered that the opposition to it was much greater than supposed even by those who had made up their minds to vote in the negative on the question of confirmation. The meeting of the Senate at noon interrupted the further proceedings of the caucus, but after an early adjournment the session of the caucus was resumed, when Senators Conkling and Boutwell advoted the confirmation of Mr. Cushing. These were his principal advocates, but those who spoke on the other side were far more numerous, and before the discussion ended it was discovered that the nominee's friends were in the minority. Finally the gentleman above named seemed to yield to the views of the majority. As the best indication of the view of the Senators, it can be positively stated that the members of the Committee on Judiciary were requested to wait upon the President in reference to the nomination. Although they were not formally instructed, it was the general understanding that they should represent to him the feeling and views of the Republican Senators on the subject as adverse to the nomination. The opinion therefore prevails among them that the President, on hearing the statement, will withdraw the nomination. The objections urged to Mr. Cushing did not affect his legal qualification for the position, but were based principally on his political principles heretofore in his official acts, which were considered as not being in accord with those entertained by the Republican party. The Senators expressed their views with much animation, and with a positiveness which showed the deep-seated opposition to the nomination.

Specie Payments.

The committee appointed by the Board of Managers of the Produce Exchange of New York, to consider the subject of the National finances, made a report which declares that the restoration of currency to a specie basis, should be kept constantly in view in all national legislation on the subject, but believes the time for the resumption of specie payments has not arrived, and should be made to depend, not so much on any fixed date, as on the general financial condition of the country; it considers the National Banking system in the main, satisfactory, and should be retained with amendments which it proposes; it deplores the emergency that called for the temporary use of any portion of the $44,000,000 legal tender reserve; it recommends that Congress shall provide for the resumption of specie payments by taking measures for the accumulation of not less than $100,000,000 in gold.

The Coal Miners.

Rumors are rife concerning the general strike among the miners through the anthracite coal region, and no little excitement has been already manifested. A meeting of the Miners' and Laborers' Association was held at Plymouth, Penn., a day or two since, attended by over 700 miners. They concluded to unite with the national organization, the last meeting of which was held at Cleveland last fall, and to place themselves under its care and direction. It was unanimously the opinion of the meeting that the wages for which they had been working were too low; that the operators could afford to pay more, and that an advance should be demanded for the basis of 1874. Prominent officers of the Miners' and Laborers' Association stated that the miners were fully prepared for a strike for the entire season, and under no circumstances will they submit to a reduction of wages. The operators have not asked for a reduction of wages, but will not consent to make any advance on the basis of last year.

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In making renewals of subscriptions, state date old subscription *expires.*

Please give name of Post Office and your own name in EACH letter—that is: make every letter complete in itself. Much valuable time is wasted in hunting up information concerning subscriptions through neglect of letter writers.

Rates of Advertising.

(PER LINE OF SPACE, EACH INSERTION.)

Ordinary advertisements.....75 cents.
Special Notices.....85 "
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Twelve lines Nonpareil solid make one inch.

The average number of words in a line is seven (Nonpareil solid); in an inch is 90; 22 inches make a column.

Double column advertisements and cuts 50 per cent. additional.

No advertisement inserted for less than $2.

Objectionable advertisements not accepted.

THREE GIFTS.

THE CHANCE OF ALL CHANCES.

We like, occasionally, to do a liberal thing.

This is our time to do one. Therefore we make this offer:

To the person who sends us the largest number of subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE *before the first of March we will*

GIVE A SPLENDID ORGAN.

Magnificent for a family instrument, and suitable for a Church or Sunday School,

WORTH $200.00.

For the second largest list a

GOLD WATCH!

worth $100.00.

For the third largest list, a splendid United States Silver Hunting Cased Watch! worth $40.00!

NOW TAKE NOTICE.

We shall go back and count for all competitors for the three prizes, all the names each has sent us since November, 1873, so that all will get the benefit of what they have done.

AND FURTHER!

Three subscribers to the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL shall count as one to the WEEKLY BLADE, and two to LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY shall count as one to the same.

AND STILL FURTHER!

Agents competing for these prizes shall RECEIVE THEIR COMMISSIONS THE SAME AS BEFORE. Thus in any case, they get paid for their work.

AND YET AGAIN!

This offer applies to all who want books.

NOW GO TO WORK.

Is there not a church that wants this organ? We may possibly take a notion to distribute several of them. But this one (and it is a beauty) we shall give away anyhow. We will furnish specimens, &c., to all applicants, free.

LOCKE & JONES,
TOLEDO, OHIO

A PAPER FOR THE HOME CIRCLE.

We wish to devote a few lines of this page to calling the attention of the mothers, wives and daughters of our farmers to the merits of a publication which is especially adapted to their wants. The AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL is pre-eminently a paper for the domestic circle, and ought to find the place in all the farm houses of the land that is now cheerfully accorded to it in a large number. It includes among its correspondents many women of experience and culture, and their hints and suggestions in matters of every day life, are well-nigh invaluable. Its department of culinary and household recipes, its directions for the growth and care of flowers, its articles on the preservation of health and the descriptions of new fashions, etc., are of more than passing interest to every housekeeper, wife and mother. While your husband is spending his $1.50 or $2.00 per year for his agricultural paper, persuade him to send seventy-five cents for you to the publishers of the FARM JOURNAL, and you will find the money well invested.

☞ LESS THAN FOUR CENTS is the cost at single rates, to the subscriber who receives in the present number of the WEEKLY BLADE, forty-seven columns of excellent reading matter. Can anything be cheaper?

Nasby Next Week.

Next week, Mr. NASBY will give an account of a complimentary dinner tendered him by the citizens of the Cross Roads, on the occasion of his leaving that classic locality. Mr. NASBY has "accepted a position" on a railroad.

THE WEEK.

The feeling of opposition to the confirmation of CALEB CUSHING as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States culminated with a most unexpected development which caused the Presicent to send to the Senate on the 14th a letter withdrawing the nomination of that gentleman "for the highest judical office in the government." This termination of the matter resulted from the discovery among the rebel archives in the possession of the War Department of a letter written to JEFF. DAVIS by Mr. CUSHING, in March, 1861. The latter letter, together with that written by Mr. CUSHING disavowing any disloyal sentiments or actions, will be found on another page. The friends of the several gentlemen whose names had been mentioned in this connection have again turned to the subject of the nomination with renewed hopes. Most prominent among those now mentioned are Hon. MORRISON R. WAITE of Ohio, and Judges DILLON of Iowa, DRUMMOND of Illinois, and DIXON of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. It is also stated that Senator CONKLING has been offered the place, and will accept. It now seems probable that the President will not make another nomination till he is fully satisfied that the gentleman selected is likely to be confirmed without difficulty. Mr. CUSHING will probably be sent to Spain as at first designed.

LATER.—Since the above was in type the telegraph announces the nomination of Hon. MORRISON R. WAITE, of Toledo, O., as Chief Justice. Mr. WAITE who was associate counsel for the United States at the Geneva Convention, and is now President of the Ohio Constitutional Convention sitting at Cincinnati, was born at Lyme, Connecticut, in 1816, graduated at Yale in 1838, since which time he has been a citizen of Ohio, and held many places of honor and trust.

The Senate have been occupied during the past week in discussing the finance question, and probably the most able speeches on this question have been made by Senator MORTON in favor of, and Senator SHERMAN against, the expansion of the currency. The House has done little of importance beside discussing and passing the naval appropriation bill. A full summary of Congressional proceedings will be found in another column.

New York has been agitated during the past week by a threated riot among the unemployed workmen, who congregated in Tompkins' Square on the 13th, and were dispersed by a heavy force of police, who made numerous arrests. These men claim that their efforts to obtain a hearing and relief at the hands of the municipal authorities have been threatened, and their claims treated with contempt. Fears are entertained that serious trouble may yet occur among the unemployed laborers of the metroplis whose ranks now number fifty thousand men.

The National Board of Trade assembled in Baltimore on the 13th inst., continuing in session during the remainder of the week. The next meeting will be held at Philadelphia in January, 1875.—The National Cheap Transportation Convention assembled in Washington on the 14th, Hon. JOSIAH QUINCY in the chair. Fifteen States were represented beside the District of Columbia. Majority and minority reports were presented from the Railroad Committee, but after considerable discussion the convention adjourned without definite action. The principal feature of the session was the variety of plans presented for accomplishing the desired result, which naturally tended to prevent any united action by the members. Reports from both these bodies will be found elsewhere.

Affairs in Texas continue to present a troublous aspect, and Gov. DAVIS seems determined to resist the new Legislature to the last. On his appeal to President GRANT for aid in resisting an election which the Governor declares unconstitutional, the President has advised him to yield to the verdict of the people as expressed by their ballots.—Reports from various other State Legislatures which have assembled during the past week, will be found in our news summary on the eighth page.

Our department of foreign news this this week will be found to contain important intelligence from Japan and other countries. The Spanish insurgents at Cartagena have been utterly defeated and the Government troops have taken possession of the town, which they found badly damaged by the bombardment.—In one of the States of Mexico the right of trial by jury has just been established, a privilege heretofore unknown to Mexican law.—The Tichbourne trial is now in progress in LONDON, and is creating much excitement.

A CAPITAL STORY.

The February number of LOCKE'S NATIONAL MONTHLY, containing the second installment of "Nasby's" new story, "John Duncan's Widow" is now passing through the press. Those who have followed the fortunes of pretty MARY LEIGH thus far on her career pronounce "John Duncan's Widow" a capital story, and it promises to have a wider circulation than anything which has recently fallen from Mr. LOCKE'S pen. And although the large January edition of the MONTHLY has been exhausted, the publishers announce that by making special arrangements for a second edition, they are still able to supply orders for "John Duncan's Widow" at twenty-five cents for the entire story, contained in three numbers of the NATIONAL MAGAZINE. This publication has forty-eight pages of sprightly and entertaining matter every month, and for the price, ($1.00 per year) is unequaled by any other magazine in the land. Rates with the BLADE and FARM JOURNAL are given at the head of this page.

THE FARMERS' REVOLUTION.

All human progress has been marked by great revolutions—by upheavals of society and the overthrow or remodeling of nations. In former times, such progress was seldom made except through long and bloody wars, and often these failed to produce any perceptible improvement in the condition of either party to the contest, so far as the acquisition of natural rights and just and wholesome political privileges were concerned. Even progression in the arts and sciences was only made through the sacrifice of human blood, and all discoverers of useful facts and principles were liable to forfeit their lives for their innovations upon the murky ignorance and impenetrable stupidity of the times in which they lived. Still, progress was made, gradually, steadily and certainly.

In our day, while war has not entirely ceased to be a pioneer in human progress, the people have reached a point where great revolutions may be effected without the shedding of blood. In England, at the present time, wonderful revolutions are in progress, but there is no thought of a resort to arms. The people are gradually coming into the possession of their natural rights, and those political privileges which can alone protect them in their rights. The elective franchise is being extended, and even the women of that country expect to vote in a few years—a thing which would have been thought most preposterous a few years ago. The laboring people are beginning to realize that they are the source of wealth and are no longer content that those who do not labor shall enjoy all the luxuries, while the workers are compelled to live upon the husks and slops of poverty and destitution. They are demanding a more generous share of the proceeds of their own toil, and begin to feel inspired with the thought that labor and poverty should not necessarily consign them to hopeless degradation.

The English farmers—the men who have tilled the soil owned by others and been allowed but the most scanty means of subsistence—are just now passing through a revolution which is destined not to end until the immense landed estates of the few are divided into small farms to be tilled by their owners and for their owners. The result of the farming system in the United States has been witnessed by the farmers of England, and they are gradually approaching the point where the rights of the many cannot longer be subject to the dictation of the few. They are beginning by demanding additional political rights, increase of wages, and the overthrow of that ancient system which retains the landed estates intact by compelling its descent in a body to one heir, to the exclusion of the equal rights of others.

This great revolution is progressing peaceably, but certainly. Formerly every step taken would have been sealed by blood; but now the intelligence of the people leads to better results. Points may be gained slowly, it is true; but when attained they can never be lost, for the people are prepared for the advance step before it is taken and do not reach a position until they can hold it. War sometimes carries the people spasmodically to advance positions which they are not prepared to maintain, just as has been the case with France and Spain in their sudden transition from Monarchy to Republicanism. The progress made through bloody revolutions is not so permanent, nor is it so valuable, as that gained through the quiet influences of advancing intelligence on the part of the people.

In our own country we are passing through a revolution. The influence of European customs and ideas have had the effect to perceptibly affect the laborers in this country. We have our aristocrats and men who seek to degrade labor and the laboring classes, just as such classes exist in Europe. There the aristocracy controls the government, and directs it in the interest of the few, but here the people, when united, hold the power and exercise it for the general good. Prior to railroads, telegraphs, and the rapid dissemination of intelligence through the daily and weekly journals, the farming class of our people have not exercised that influence which justly belonged to them, because they did not make that progress which was necessary to take a leading position in the direction of social and political affairs. No class of people have had more time for mental improvement, and none have occupied a position where such improvement could be made more profitable than the farmers. Our railroads, telegraphs and public journals have had their legitimate effects upon the farmers, who have been stimulated as they never were before, and the result is a revolution among that class of men. Hitherto, they have been the victims of all manner of monopolies, while they have honestly trudged along in their old-fashioned way, never attempting to use the power within their reach for self protection or for aggressive movements. Recently a great change has taken place. The farmers have organized all over the country, and those who have lived in combinations and transacted all their business upon scales prescribed by combinations, wonder what the farmers can mean, and what terrible thing will grow out of the Granges. To all such we would say, be not alarmed. The farmers contemplate doing wrong to no one. They only seek to take a step forward, and this revolution which is now quietly taking place, can only result in good to the human family. The farmers propose to assume their rightful position, that is all. They seek by organization to promote their social, intellectual, and material interests. They propose to elevate labor and the laborer, and to protect themselves against monopolies which are destructive of their interests as producers. It is a great revolution in which they are engaged, but it is bloodless and carries with it none of the disasters which usually characterize the revolutions incident to human progress. It promises nothing but good results, hence all may bid the farmers God speed in their work. Anything which lifts the people up—anything which spreads intelligence and wipes out class distinctions, having their origin in class advantages—must be hailed by every well-wisher of the human family as an undisguised blessing. Rightly directed, the organization of farmers must be crowned with great good to all classes of people, and inestimable blessings to the farmers.

THE SUN.

Professor RICHARD A. PROCTOR, Secretary of the Royal Astronomical Society of London, and author of several celebrated works upon astronomical topics, gave the first lecture of a scientific course in New York upon the evening of Jan. 8th, his subject being the Sun, the source of light and heat to our world, the mysteries of which he elucidated in so interesting, instructive, erudite and simple a manner that a brief summary cannot fail to give both pleasure and profit to our readers, since the lecturer has brought to bear upon his interesting subject the fruit of years of arduous and earnest study and very extensive research. In his introduction he alluded to the adoration with which the ancients regarded the sun, worshipping it as the Creator instead of the creature, since they believed it was the source of all good upon earth, for which fault in their ignorance, they might well be pardoned, since its magnitude and power are well calculated to inspire the most irreverant with awe. "How little we think," said he "when we see the sun rising as a ruddy globe above the horizon, involved in leaden-colored clouds—how little we think that at every instant that globe with a mighty force is attracting not only the earth but other planets far larger than the earth. Still less do we know how, not merely in the daytime, but through all the time, that sun is pouring forth supplies of light and heat, infinitely greater than are required for the wants of this earth."

In explaining the distance of the sun from our earth, he made the following comparisons: "If this earth were represented by a globe one inch in diameter, then the sun's globe would be represented by an orb three inches in diameter. If the sun's globe in turn were represented by a globe one inch in diameter then the distance would be represented by three yards; our earth a globe one inch in diameter, the sun three yards; the sun a globe one inch in diameter, the distance three yards. Now let us consider what that enormous distance means. An Armstrong gun fires a bullet at the rate of 409 yards per second. A bullet fired at that rate and maintaining it to the sun, would take 13 years to get there, and the sound of the explosion would reach the sun half a year later. In other words, those beings, those men who worshipped the sun and raised their voices in prayer to him, if their voices could have been heard and there was an atmosphere, a medium of intercommunication by which the sound of their voices could reach him, 13½ years would have been needed before their prayers could have reached their God. If there were a steel rod connecting the earth with the sun, and the pole of the earth were brought into communication with the sun, 300 years would elapse before the strain would reach the earth. Another consideration—and this was suggested by Prof. MENDENHAFF of your country, and by HOLMES and others—is this: Feeling is conveyed along the nerves ten times slower than sound travels. If therefore an infant were born having an arm of the somewhat inconvenient length of 91,000,000 of miles, so as to reach the sun; and if while in the cradle in boyhood he were to stretch out his arm and touch the sun, that infant might grow to the three-score years and ten allotted to man, or even to four-scoure, but he would never be conscious of the fact that the tip of his finger was burned: he should live 135 years before that would be experienced."

In alluding to the size of the sun, the speaker said, if an object as large as our earth were placed before it, and there appeared as a black disc, it would require a large telescope to make it visible, since the sun's diameter exceeds that of our planet 107 times, and the surface of the sun is 11,600 times greater than that of the earth, and its volume 1,250,000 times greater. The heat and light of the sun are the source of the life and light of the earth, every form of force upon the earth, every action that we perform, and the very thoughts we think may be said to come from the sun, since its heat maintains life upon the earth. The heat of the sun he illustrated by saying: "In every second the sun gives out as much heat as would be given out by burning 11,600,000,000,000,000 of tons; and this earth on which we live, if its whole surface were glowing with the same heat as the sun would give out in every second the same amount of heat that would be given by burning up 1,000,000,000,000 tons of coal. One million million tons of coal in every second of time!—a globe only as large as our earth; while the sun, the great center of our system, gives out every second an amount of heat that would be given out by burning 11,600,000,000,000,000 of tons of coal, or about eight times the whose supply of coal supposed to exist in this earth."

After an exhaustive dissertation and description upon the sun's spots, for which astronomers can not yet afford satisfactory explanations, a comparison of spectrum lines and other solar phenomena was given which were illustrated by diagrams the learned speaker concluding by an allusion to the constant waste and final exhaustion of solar heat as follows: "This great central machine of the solar sun, the central heart, pulsates with life and will continue to do so until the fuel is exhausted. How does the sun maintain this fire? Why is there no gradual loss of energy? If the sun were a mass of coal of the same bulk, that coal, in the course of 5,000 years, would be entirely consumed, and the sun would be a mere cinder. If the sun would be a mass of water, which has a quality of specific heat in its combinations by which it gives out more heat than any other matter, in the course of 5,000 years it would lose 1,500 degrees Fahrenheit in temperature. There are two theories of the manner in which the sun's heat is kept up. One is by the downfall of meteoric matter. The other is that it is maintained by the gradual contraction of its substance, the same process by which the rest of the solar system was formed. I may say there is certainly a time in the far future when the sun's heat will be exhausted." The latter view is certainly not a cheerful one, but as the time for the exhaustion of the sun's heat is happily fixed in the far off future, our generation at least, has no cause to borrow trouble regarding that distant period, when its vivifying light and heat will be withdrawn and life become extinct upon our planet.

CUSHING WITHDRAWN.

The telegraph brings intelligence that the President has withdrawn the nomination of CALEB CUSHING for Chief Justice. Soon after the President sent his letter of withdrawal to the Senate, he received a letter from Mr. CUSHING requesting the withdrawal of his name, and this letter was also forwarded to the Senate. The withdrawal of Mr. CUSHING'S name was based largely upon the letter written by CUSHING to JEFF. DAVIS in 1861. Interpreting that letter by the political antecedents of the writer, gave it a very bad appearance and left no doubt as to the duty of the President. We publish elsewhere a full report of the action of the Republican Senatorial caucus prior to the withdrawal of CUSHING'S nomination, together with the President's letter to the Senate and CUSHING'S letter requesting his withdrawal from the Senate and his letter to DAVIS. There are intimations that the letter to DAVIS may have the effect to prevent Mr. CUSHING from going to Madrid, but that is not probable.

WHO FOR CHIEF JUSTICE?

Since the President has twice surprised the country by the nomination of persons who were not thought of by the people in connection with the office of Chief Justice, it is not safe for those who wish to preserve a reputation for prophetic vision to venture a prediction as to who the third nominee will be. It would be quite safe, perhaps, to say that the next nominee will get the position, on the principle that "the third time is the charm." The President may consult his own feelings in making his third selection, but he will doubtless be disposed also, to consult the feelings of others. He will undoubtedly be reasonably certain that his next man will "pass muster." There are various conjectures as to who that man will be, and we give below the impressions of correspondents and prominent journals as to who the lucky man may and should be:

From the Cincinnati Gazette's Washington Correspondent.

The Iowa delegation, with some other Western politicians, had a meeting to-night to consult in regard to presenting the name of Judge DILLON, of the Missouri and Iowa Circuit, to the President for Chief Justice. Senator WRIGHT, of Iowa, was authorized to call on the President to-morrow. Some of the delegation had reasons for believing that when Cushing's name was decided upon it was selected from three, the other two being Judge DILLON and MORRISON R. WAITE, of Toledo, O.

From the Cleveland Herald's Washington correspondent.

Western Congressmen represent that the President states that his choice for Chief Justice will be from among the following names: United States Circuit Judges, Drummond, of Chicago, and Dillon, of Iowa; Dixon, Chief Justice of Wisconsin State Supreme Court, and M. R. Waite, of Ohio, of counsel for United States at Geneva.

From the Springfield, Mass., Republican.

With our short sight, it would seem to have been vastly better for the country if Mr. Evarts or Judge Waite had been placed prominently in the President's eye. In the appointment of either of these gentlemen, he would have rebuked the presumption of the crowding Senators of high standing, and would have won a triumph over himself and for himself, as well as done a good thing for the country at large.

From the Cleveland Herald.

The President has withdrawn the name of Caleb Cushing as he withdrew that of Attorney General Williams, on finding the nomination distasteful to the Senate and the country. He informed Western Senators that he has a list of names from which he purposes to make appointments until one can be found to stick, and that one of four Western men named will be the next sent to the Senate. Mott R. Waite, of Toledo, is one of the four, the President's attention probably having been directed to him by his able services as counsel for the United States before the Geneva Arbitration. The others named are United States Circuit Judges Drummond, of Chicago, and Dillon, of Iowa, and Judge Dixon, at present Chief Justice of the State Supreme Court of Wisconsin.

If the President should send in the name of Mott R. Waite, he will have no reason to regret it. That nomination would, we believe, be satisfactory to the Senate, and certainly would be to all that portion of the people, who know anything of Mr. Waite's character as a lawyer, a citizen and a man. His knowledge of the law is unsurpassed, his integrity unquestioned, and his mind has that judicial fairness required on the bench, but not always found there. Mr. Waite is a Republican in politics, but not a partisan. Neither party nor personal considerations could swerve him a hair's breadth from the right in forming and announcing an opinion on a legal question before him. He would honor the position of Chief Justice as much as the position would honor him.

We might extend these quotations, but the foregoing are sufficient to show the current of public sentiment. From the expressions made public, it is evident that our distinguished townsman, Hon. M. R. WAITE, stands fair, if not first, with the President, and that his nomination for Chief Justice would give entire satisfaction to all sections of the country. His eminent abilities, unquestioned integrity, and freedom from the character of the politician, point to him as one who is peculiarly fitted for the position.

☞ DO NOT HESITATE to make an effort to secure for yourself any of the liberal prizes to be awarded for the largest list of subscribers sent in for our publications before March 1st, 1874. Your chances are as good as any one's else, and if you display a little energy, a good deal better, besides you will be fairly paid for your time under any circumstances. Specimen copies, circulars, etc., sent free on application to LOCKE & JONES, Toledo, Ohio.

☞ THE WEEKLY BLADE of this issue contains three columns of "ANSWERS to Correspondents" prepared especially for this paper by its editor. And this is only one of the many departments of the BLADE which are filled with fresh and entertaining matter.

FORTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

We give elsewhere the full text of the salary bill passed by the Senate on the 12th, and subsequently concurred in by the House, with the ayes and noes of the vote in the Senate. It will prove convenient for reference.

In the Senate on the 12th inst., Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony presented a petition, asking that woman be allowed the same right to vote which is extended to colored people. The points of the salary bill debate on that day have already been given.

In the House on the 12th, a large number of new bills were introduced, among others the following: By Mr. Lowndes—to aid in establishing Polytechnic Schools in every county in the States and Territories; by Mr. Berry—to establish a uniform and elastic currency, and reduce the National debt; by Mr. Hyde—to repeal the internal tax on tobacco; by Mr. Field—making treasury notes legal tender for custom duties; also, to prevent financial panics by the issue of 3 65 bonds, and $44,000,000 reserve; by Mr. Negley—to protect persons of foreign birth from forced servitude. Mr. Holman moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution declaring that in the judgment of the House, there is no necessity to increase taxation or to increase the public debt by a further loan, if there shall be economy in public expenditures; and that, in view of the condition of the national finances, the House will reduce the appropriations and public expenditures to the lowest point consistent with the proper administration of public affairs. The rules were suspended and the resolution adopted—yeas 22; nays 3. Mr. Hawley moved to suspend the rules and adopt a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the House, that the expenditures of the nation can and should be so reduced and regulated that they can be met by the existing taxes, and that in no event should there be an increase of either interest bearing or non-interest bearing obligations of the Government. The motion was agreed to without yeas and nays. The House subsequently went into Committee of the Whole to consider the Naval Appropriation Bill, and immediately on rising adjourned.

On the 13th, after some preliminary business, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the resolution reported by the Finance Committee, declaring it to be the duty of Congress to adopt definite measures to redeem the pledge in the act of 1866 for the earliest practical redemption of United States notes in gold coin. To this as a substitute, Senator Ferry presented a resolution directing the Committee on Finance to report at as early a day as practicable, such measure as will restore commercial confidence, and give stability to the circulating medium through a moderate increase of the currency. Senator Frelinghuysen spoke at length against inflation, and in favor of a return to specie payment. He introduced a bill, which was referred to the Finance Committee, designed to secure the redemption of specie payments without contracting the currency. Addresses upon the life and character of Messrs. James Bryoks and Wilder D. Foster, (deceased) were delivered by Senators Fenton and Ferry.

In the House on the 13th, the consideration of the bill to promote education was postponed till the third Tuesday in March. The House again went into Committee of the Whole on the Naval Appropriation bill, but rose without making much progress. The Senate Salary bill was then taken up and passed as stated elsewhere. Mr. Garfield, from the Committee on Rules, reported a rule proposed originally by Mr. Holman, requiring that all bills making appropriations of money or property, or requiring such appropriation to be made, or authorizing the payment out of appropriations already made, shall be first considered in the Committee of the Whole. The rule was adopted.

In the Senate on the 14th, Senator Pratt presented a petition of the Indianapolis Woman's Suffrage Association protesting against the passage of a bill limiting suffrage in the Territories to males, which petition was duly referred. At the expiration of the morning hour, the Senate again took under consideration the resolution reported from the Finance Committee, and the floor was occupied by Senator Schurz, after which the Senate went into executive session, and the doors were opened for adjournment at 4.30 P. M.

On the same day, the House having heard the report of the Committee on Revision of the Laws, decided to hold two evening sessions beginning the present week, for the consideration of the same. The report comprises a revision and codification of all the statutes up to 1873, and embraces over 3,000 printed pages. The House again went into Committee of the Whole, and resumed the consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill, but adjourned without accomplishing anything of note.

The Senate continued the discussion of the bill to establish post roads through the country, on the 15th, and speeches were made by Senators Morrill, Ramsey and Hamlin. At the expiration of the morning hour, the resolution reported by the Finance Committee was again taken up, and the floor occupied by Fenton and Morton, the latter of whom reviewed the speech of Schurz, during which he (Morton) stated that England, with her 31,000,000 people, had $600,000,000 currency, and the United States, with her 48,000,000 people, had only $800,000,000 currency. The discussion was continued by Senator Howe, who presented a bill entitled "A bill to provide for the gradual withdrawal of irredeemable notes, and a substitution therefor, if redeemable, of National Bank notes; to remove the unjust restrictions upon banks of issue, and upon the amount of circulation." Senator Schurz rose to a personal explanation, and the Senate afterwards went into executive session and shortly after adjourned.

In the House, on the 15th, Mr. Randall, from the Committee on Rules, reported a rule vesting the appointment and removal of official reporters of the House in the Speaker, and requiring them to furnish for publication a statement of all the petitions filed each day. The last clause of the rule elicited a long discussion. Finally the rule was adopted, and the Speaker announced that he would appoint the present corps of reporters, and would exercise in the future the power of removal only for cause, the cause to be entered in the journal. The House went into Committee of the whole on the Naval Appropriation bill, and on rising, the bill was passed and the House adjourned.

In accordance with previous notice, Senator Sherman arose in the Senate on the 16th, to continue the discussion of the Finance Committee's resolution, taking the ground that specie was "the only true standard of value, and arguing against further inflation. During his remarks, he said: "On June 30th, 1869, the legal tenders outstanding amounted to $345,000,000. On the 1st of January last, they amounted to $381,838,339, or an increase in this form of security of $36,481,339. The fractional currency, which, in 1869, amounted to $27,508,928, now amount to $48,554,782, being an increase of over $21,000,000. And again the National Bank circulation had been increased from $299,798,000 to $350,861,000; making a total amount of currency of over $820,000,000. If the inflationists are granted $50,000,000 more currency now, they will soon be demanding another $100,000, and we shall be brought into the same condition as our ancestors at the close of the Revolution. After remarks by Senator Morton and notice of a speech from Senator Wright, the Senate adjourned till Monday.

In the House on the same day, a large number of private bills were introduced, and nothing of special importance transpired. The session of the House, on Saturday, according to the usual custom, was devoted to debate exclusively.

☞ It is said that Old Scotty's dominions are paved with good intentions and so are the Halls of Congress, if we may judge by the passage of resolutions in favor of reducing taxation and the exercise of rigid economy in the administration of the Government.

☞ WHY SPEND MONEY in paying for three or four papers in order to get information and good family reading? The BLADE and the AMERICAN FARM JOURNAL are sent for one year at $2.25, and contain more choice reading, and better departments of matter especially interesting to the farmer, the merchant and the mechanic, than any two papers in the country at the same price.

The Strife in Texas,

Governor Davis still holds out. No transfers of either State officers have been made. His friends say he will await the result of the Cabinet meeting at Washington on the 17th. Saturday evening seven of the ringleaders of the mob who arrested the Mayor Friday, were arrested on a civil process—four negroes and three whites—which caused quite a stir in the basement of the Capitol, but no demonstrations were made. Everything was otherwise quiet.

The following correspondence explains itself:

EX OFFICE AUSTIN,
Jan. 16, 1874.

To Hon. Edmond J. Davis:

"SIR:—Having been on yesterday, the 15th day of January, duly and constitutionally elected Governor of the State of Texas, and having fully qualified as such, I have to ask of you respectfully the delivery into my possession of the Executive office of the State, together with the papers, archives, and all property pertaining thereto, as well as the office of the Secretary of State and its archives, papers and property."

Very respectfully,

"RICHARD COOK."

EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
State of Texas, Jan. 17.

SIR:—Acknowledging the receipt of your communication of yesterday, I have to say in reply that I do not, as you know, regard you as the Executive of this State, or entitled to the possession of the Governor's office, or any official records. I am myself the Governor of the State until the 28th day of April next. So much on this point. I will add, sir, to my view, and I hope also to yours, that it becomes us as citizens desirous of the peace of our State, that we should without delay concur in some plan for settling the question as to which is the legitimate State government, and of putting an end to the present disturbed condition of the State. As matters now stand, every day adds to the injurious complication of our affairs. I therefore now propose to you to submit the question of the recognition of the legitimate State Government to the Executive or Congress, or to both. As the Executive of the United States is bound under the constitution to sustain the legitimate Governor against domestic violence, this question is a proper one for him to decide. I pledge myself to abide by the decision thus made, and will advise all good citizens to do the same. I also propose to join with you in adopting the means best calculated to secure a prompt decision of this question. Greatly desiring an early settlement of these troubles, and trusting that you will meet this effort with a similar spirit,

I remain respectfully,
EDMUND J. DAVIS, Gov.

"EXECUTIVE OFFICE,
"AUSTIN, TEXAS, Jan. 17, 1874.

"To the Hon. E. J. Davis:

"SIR:—Yours of this inst., in reply to mine of yesterday is received. By the will of the people of Texas, fairly and legally expressed at the polls, and the recognition of their representatives, the Fourteenth Legislature now in session, it has been decided, too, that I am the Constitutional Governor of Texas, and as such have been duly installed, and holding this decision absolute, and declining under any circumstances to consider your proposition to refer the matter to another authority, I respectfully renew the request made in my note of yesterday.

"RICHARD COOK, Governor."

Attorney General Williams Saturday afternoon sent the following telegram to Governor Davis:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.

Governor E. J. Davis, Austin, Texas:

Your telegrams of yesterday, stating that according to the Constitution of Texas you were Governor until the 28th of April next, and that the Hon. Richard Cook has been inaugurated, and will attempt to seize the Governor's office and buildings, and calling upon the President for military assistance, has been referred by me to him, and I am instructed to say that after considering the fourth section of article four of the Constitution of Texas, providing that the Governor shall hold his office for the term of four years from the date of his installment, under which you claim, and section three of the election declaration attached to said constitution under which you were chosen, and which provides that the State and other officers elected hereunder shall hold their respective offices for the term of years prescribed by the Constitution, beginning from the day of their election, under which the Governor-elect claims office, and more than four years having expired since your election, he is of the opinion that your right to the office of Governor at this time is at least so doubtful that he does not feel warranted in furnishing United States troops to aid you in holding further possession of it, and he therefore declines to comply with your request.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS,
Attorney General

The votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor of Texas, were counted in a joint session of the Legislature, on the 15th, and Richard Coke and R. D. Hubbard declared elected. Governor Coke delivered his message. Thursday evening Gen. Button took possession of the Capitol, and stationed a guard of soldiers in it, to prevent ingress or egress, at the instigation of Gov. Davis, who proposes to resist the new Legislature to the end.

Another telegram was received on the 16th from Gov. DAVIS, of TEXAS, addressed to the President, saying that by the constitution he was entitled to hold his office until the 28th of April, and that he was making preparations to protect the officers of the State, and asks for military assistance. There is no probability that the government will interfere or make any change in the policy heretofore indicated in the recent telegram of the President to Governor Davis, and in the response of Attorney General Williams to the United States Marshal at Austin.

Consumption,

the scourge of the human family, may in its early stages be promptly arrested and permanently cured.

RAVENSWOOD, W. Va., Oct. 28th, 1872.

SIR:—For the last year I have been using your Golden Medical Discovery. I owe my life to it, having been afflicted for years. Did not use it but a short time before I was benefitted; at the time I was very bad, not able to sit up much, was suffering greatly with my throat, was getting blind, had a dry cough, and much pain in my lungs. I have used twelve bottles of the Discovery, and am almost well.

KATE T. WARDNER.

A son of Mr. J. H. Alcock, of Chatham Four Corners, N. Y., has been cured of consumption by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery—so says Mr. C. B. Canfield, editor of the Chatham Courier.

S. R. Eglar, druggist, of West Union, O., writes to state that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has effected a wonderful cure of consumption, in his neighborhood.

—FAR AWAY.—Far away the fame of those $100 lots in Cass's East Side Addition is attracting the attention of Customers. Among the latter was a gentleman from New York, who secured two lots.

It is not only a convenience, but an absolute necessity for ruptured persons to use the New Elastic Truss without springs. This Truss is worn with ease day and night, always retaining the rupture securely, and is not taken off till a cure is effected. Sold at a moderate price, and sent by mail to all parts of the country by the Elastic Truss Co., 683 Broadway, New York City, who supply their full descriptive circulars free on application as above.

Correspondence.

WASHINGTON LETTERS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1874.

The sensation to-day is the nomination of Hon. Caleb Cushing for the chief Judicial office of the United United States. It is current here that the Judiciary Committee, after having the nomination referred to them by the Senate, immediately reported it back with their approval, and that an attempt was made to confirm it, but that one of the younger Republican members objected, and insisted that it shou'd go over to Monday. Thurman and Stevenson, who were members of the Committee, were very earnest for the immediate confirmation, and the Democrats generally showed a very lively interest in the nomination. But it is now certain that if the confirmation is suspended for a few days it will share the same experience as that of Mr. Williams. At first everybody seemed to be in favor of it, and no doubt was expressed of its immediate confirmation, but to-night men shake their heads ominously, and begin to hesitate and wonder if there is no lawyer in the Republican party who is equal to the place; and if it is entirely safe, so soon after the war, to put the judicial authority of our highest court in the keeping of an old State Rights Democrat. Then, it is remembered that Mr. Cushing was the right hand man of Pierce and Buchanan, and is said to have helped the former to his reasons for abandoning the Missouri compromise, and the latter to his extraordinary position that there was "no power to coerce a State." It is also charged that he sustained the Dread Scott decision, and it is known that he was the chairman of the Charleston Convention. But, perhaps, the strongest point made against him is his age. As he was born in 1800 he must now be about 74 years old, and Congress has lately passed a law authorizing a Judge of the United States Court to retire on full pay at 70. If, therefore, he is confirmed, the step between his confirmation and his retirement, may be a very short one, and at the longest, his usefulness on the bench must be very brief.

As to Mr. Cushing's record, there are few that are more honorable. It is pretty likely that he was, before the war, a strong pro-slavery, State Rights Democrat But men are changed by circumstances, and Gen. Butler, Gen. Sickles, Gen. Dix and others have found reason to modify their old opinions somewhat, and the same is undoubtedly true of Mr. Cushing. So early as April 24, 1861, Mr. Cushing made a patriotic war speech at Newburyport, Mass., and soon afterward offered his services to Gov. Andrews for military duty; but they were declined on account of his position as a Democrat. Towards the close of the war, Mr. Lincoln called him to this city to act for the government before the American and British Commission. He answered the summons, and has since been largely employed as counsel in a great variety of very important suits growing out of the war, and has been found to be a prudent and wise counsellor and an able advocate. He voted for Mr. Lincoln at his second election, and for Gen. Grant at both his elections; but without identifying himself distinctly with the Republican party. The truth is, that he has been out of political life for the last 15 years, and has devoted himself to matters of statesmanship, diplomacy, international law and letters. He was our chief advocate before the Switzerland Arbitration, and is at once "a full man, a ready man, and an accurate man." There can be no doubt of his eminent qualifications for this high place, and he is said to have been the President's first choice for it.—But his age, and some reluctance to accept the place, induced the President to turn to a younger man. But, since the young man was not acceptable, he went back and took refuge in one who was was "full of years and full of honors."—The indications to-day are, that the nomination will be confirmed. At any rate, he is in the line of safe precedents, for he hails from Old Virginia, the mother of States and statesmen.

The Senate has been debating the salary bill; and, whatever may be the action, has shown that the members are very reluctant to let go their hold on the "almighty dollar." It was very easy to make the increase retroactive for two full years, but you will note that there is no serious intention anywhere to date back the reduction. Mr. Wood, of New York, in his eulogy on the late James Brooks, said that "if there was any one thing that, more than another, would prove our system of government a failure, it was the disrespect felt for those in authority and the abuse heaped on officials." But how a plain, honest people can feel respect for the selfishness and greed manifested by our public men he did not inform us. The last election showed pretty clearly what the people were inclined to do, and I greatly fear that the case has not been improved by the present Congress.

It is current that Col. Bristow, who was nominated for Attorny-General in place of Mr. Williams, will be named for the Spanish mission in case Mr. Cushing does not go.

You will notice the compliment paid by Gen. Butler to the speech of the colored man, Elliott, of South Carolina. He said he would not go into the argument on the legal questions in the Civil Rights bill because that had been exhausted by Mr Elliott, "with a grasp of mind which showed that he was the peer of any man on this floor." And again: "The exhibition of yesterday showed that there was at least one colored man on this floor who was intellectually equal to any other man."

Mr. Sargent's bill to regulate affairs in Utah, provides that any woman who holds the relation of spouse to a man with a plurality of wives, but is not a lawful wife, may file a petition in the U. S. District Court to be discharged from such relation, and on being discharged, shall have the custody of her minor children and also her equitable proportion of the property of the man with whom she has been living.

Mrs. Lockwood is not quite satisfied with Mr. Sumner's Civil Rights bill, and has been to him about it. She complained that women were excluded from law schools, divinity schools, medical schools, &c., &c., and just wanted the little word "sex" inserted into the main clause of the bill, thus: "without regard to race, color, sex or previous condition." But the great leveller could not see it in that light.

The name of Senator Morton has been freely used in connection with the office of Chief Justice, but it is evident that, like Senator Conkling, he proposes to remain in the U. S. Senate.

BUCKEYE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.

The excitement in regard to Mr. Cushing still continues, and swallows up everything else. The *Chronicle* persists in searching into his past record, and the facts brought to light are spread out with partisan exaggerations, while column after column of adverse comments from the press are published, and the opposition is passionate and determined. I find, too, that the opinion of his record, given in this correspondence, was more favorable than these facts seem to warrant. The truth probably is, that Mr. Cushing's moral convictions are somewhat weak, and that the consequence is that his life has shown a variety of extraordinary political changes, the guiding star of which may have been vanity or ambition or passion, but certainly was not principle. There is but one opinion of his great ability and legal lore, but his other qualifications are by no means conspicuous, and if the Senate confirms the nomination the country will have reason to rejoice that there is a law under which he may soon be retired.

The Senate evidently hesitates and is slow to act. On Monday it resolved to attend to the salary bill. Yesterday public opinion rolled in so heavily against confirmation that it adjourned and went into caucus, and to-day the impression is very decided that the nomination cannot be confirmed. The feeling around is very bitter; and the opinion expressed by the BLADE on the day after the nomination has come to be the settled opinion of the masses; viz: that Mr. Cushing was very well for Minister to Spain, but not quite the thing for Chief Justice of the United States. But enough on this subject—you will, I think, know the result of this ill-starred controversy before this reaches you.

I should say, however, that Mr. Sumner continues to stand by Mr. Cushing, and is entirely satisfied by a close intimacy with him for many years that he has accepted the prevailing republican ideas on the subject of reconstruction, and that as judge the country has nothing to fear from his former views in regard to slavery, and State rights, and the status of the negro. Mr. Sumner has, from the first, been in favor of Judge Hoar or Mr. Evarts; and, they being out of the question, of Richard Dana or Chief Justice Gray, all Massachusetts men except Mr. Evarts, but is quite ready to compromise on Cushing. As to Mr Hoar, it will be remembered that President Grant nominated him for Associate Justice two or three years ago and that the Senate treated the nomination as they have treated the nomination of Mr. Williams, and if he was not the proper man for Associate Justice, he is certainly not the proper man for Chief Justice.

The Senate has got through with the back pay business, "as well as could be expected under the circumstances." Its amendment to the House bill, moved by Mr. Conkling, provides for the repeal of the act of March last so far as it applies to members of Congress, Cabinet officers and all other persons, except the President and Judges of the Supreme Court; and enacts that mileage shall not be allowed for the first session of this Congress (members being then paid according to the act of March last), and that monies not drawn by members under the increase of pay or drawn and returned, shall be covered into the treasury. Of course the bill revives the old mileage abuse, which is a misfortune. The House concurred in the Senate amendments by a vote of 226 to 25, and so the bill has become a law, unless the President vetoes it, which is not to be expected.

The telegram of the President to Gov. Davis of Texas, declining to sustain him with the military power of the government is highly approved here, and the suggestive question—"Would it not be prudent as well as right to yield to the verdict of the people as expressed by their ballots? is deemed a wise and timely intimation. But I am sorry to see that Gov. Davis is not likely to follow it.

The *Star* of last evening, in referring to the inquiries of Congress about the disposition of the various contingent funds voted in the appropriation bills doubts whether the modern methods for getting rid of these funds are any great improvement on the usages of the olden time; and in illustration of its doubt it publishes the following from the expenses of the Senate in 1811:

7 gallons best Madeira wine	$28 00
4 " " Cognac brandy	8 00
1½ lbs almonds at 40c	4 80
10 lbs raisins at 50c	5 00
Total	$45 80

Rather worse than Roger knives or gold tooth picks.

It is current here that Minister Sickles *is not fond of Fish*. His letters state that during the Virginius negotiations the Spanish minister knew much more about what was going on in Washington than he did, and that he had already obtained an order for the delivery of the Virginius and her crew, without any conditions, and was just about to sign the protocol when the business was taken off his hands.

Israel Dille Esq., an old resident of Ohio, but for the last ten years, a clerk in the Treasury Department, died suddenly on Sunday night last of angina pectoris. His residence was Newark, and he was a man of considerable distinction. Age 76 years.

The Corcoran Art gallery is to be opened on Monday next to the President and other invited guests, and after that to the general public. During two days of the week there will be no charge at the door. On other days there will be an admission fee.

Congress has done nothing as yet for the relief of the treasury and in the meantime, the strong box is being emptied and there is a fear that it will be drained to the bottom; but there is a considerable increase of revenues, which will eke out what remains for some time.

BUCKEYE.

SOUTHERN NEBRASKA.

Notes on the Soil and Climate—The Configuration of the Country—The Society—Church and Educational Privileges, Etc.

Correspondence Toledo Blade.

RIVERTON, Neb., Jan. 10th.

The repeated and numerous calls for information by persons living in the East, most of whom, perchance, are readers of the BLADE, because they look to it for all the information and most reliable news of the day, induced me to resort to its columns in order to answer some of these numerous questions, KLOWing the enormous circulation it enjoys, its popularity and reliability. The extensive tract of country known as the Republican Valley is, without question, destined to be one of the most healthy, populous and wealthy, as it is the most fertile region in the West, if we may be allowed to judge its future by its past history of three or four years. For beauty of scenery, fertility of soil, mildness of climate, favorable location for all branches of industry, and natural advantages generally, it is not surpassed by any country west of the Mississippi.

The river is a broad, sandy stream of pure, clear water, fed by the melting snows of the mountains, and its numerous tributaries, all of which are a series of springs from their source. Their sloping valleys are covered with a dense growth of young timber, consisting of oak, ash, walnut, red oak, white elm, cedar, box elder, willow and cottonwood. The former, however, not very generally dispersed, but the latter prevailing wherever there is water, and attaining immense proportions. It would be taken by the eastern tourist for the poplar, so common in that country, the tall, straight trunks rising to the height of sixty to eighty feet. An entire absence of undergrowth, and the luxuriant growth of grass prevailing as far as the eye can reach, gives the valley more the appearance of an extensive pasture cleared off by the hand of man, than the natural range of the Buffalo, Antelope and Deer.

The climate is mild and healthy; the atmosphere dry, clear, pure and invigorating so that objects can be seen at a long distance with the naked eye, and the dust and travel stained emigrant is frequently deceived by the delusive mirage, so often described by the traveler in the West. Buffalo and other carcasses dry up, their hides becoming as hard as if petrified, and decomposition progressing very slowly.

The soil is a rich sandy loam, mixed with magnesia, gypsum and other fertilizing elements, sufficient to give us naturally a rich and vigorous soil, generally from two to seven feet deep.

Hard pan, so common in some of the Western States, does not underlie the soil, consequently we have sufficient underdrainage to carry off any excess of water. Immediately on the Republican River there is a preponderance of sand, but not so much so as to prevent it from producing average crops, as three years' experience have demonstrated.

All the cereals are grown with abundant success; wheat in particular, as the agricultural statistics of the State plainly attest; also, potatoes, sorghum, pumpkins, squashes and all other garden vegetables. These can be raised on the sod the same year it is broken, so that the settler can be furnished with his most essential requisites the first year of settlement.

The mildness of our winters and the almost entire absence of rain during the fall and winter months, render this one of the most successful stock growing countries in the world, and pre-eminently adapted to sheep raising, as the diseases so prevalent in damp clay soils in the east will prove no obstacle in the way to success. Stock requires but little feed during the winter but shelter from the northwest winds is of great benefit. The prairies furnish a luxuriant growth of nutritious grasses, principally the bunch and blue joint varieties, which are rapidly pushing out the Buffalo grass. The former not being killed by the frost dry up like hay, retaining their nourishing qualities during the entire winter.

Good water powers abound along the Republican and its tributaries, only awaiting the skill and enterprise of man to turn them into sources of immense revenues to the fortunate possessor. A good flouring mill is a fortune in itself. Coal abounds along the valleys and bluffs of the streams beyond a question, and tin, copper, gympsum, and beds of natural lime, ready for use, have been found. And nature, as if willing to show her impartial munificence in the distribution of her gifts, has placed a great abundance of building material herein. The soft magnesia limestone, which makes a beautiful and substantial structure, and suitable for the most elegant and costly edifices; good pine lumber, from R. R some forty miles north of us, can be bought at but a slight advance on eastern markets.

Nebraska is strictly a prairie country, but, were the fires kept out, but a few years would elapse till timber would spring up all over the prairies spontaneously, as observation has clearly demonstrated. Fruit and forest trees, when planted and protected from the fires, grow rapidly and thriftily, and Southern Nebraska, situated as it is right in the great fruit-growing belt, extending from the Atlantic through Delaware, Maryland, Southern Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, &c., to the Pacific, gives ample evidence of very soon becoming one of the best fruit-growing States in the Union, as the records of the late fairs in Boston and other places, has given Nebraska the first premium on fruit. Wild fruit, consisting of grapes of an excellent flavor, plums, gooseberries and black currants, grow in wonderful quantities.

Good water can be obtained by digging from thirty to sixty feet It has been said that it never rains in Nebraska. Although our fall and winter months are devoid of rain, yet our rain falls in the spring and summer months equal, if not exceed, those of Ohio and Pennsylvania, when it is required by vegetation. A very remarkable peculiarity is noticeable in our spring rains, that is, they most always occur during the night, leaving the day cool and pleasant; not impeding the progress of labor on the farm, but greatly enhancing it, thus prolonging the breaking season till July or August, so that a good span of horses can break forty or fifty acres in one season, which, if planted with corn after the plow, will yield ordinarily from twelve to thirty-five bushels per acre. The upland has just as good soil and produces as much grain per acre as the low or bottom land, and are much more free from weeds, the most numerous of which is the sunflower and buffalo burr, but is easily controlled in time.

Our society is as moral and in every way as decorous, as is to be found in any county, and, I think, probably better in proportion to numbers than in older settled countries. Nearly every city in the Union has its representatives here, and most all have enjoyed the better circles of society in their former homes, and will not suffer by contrast with any other class of people when surrounded by the same circumstances. Many a rude cabin or "dug out" resounds with strains of the piano, organ or melodeon, after the labors of the day have ended, produced by as dainty and skillful fingers as the most refined and appreciative occupants of Eastern parlors; and its walls decorated with costly and elegant pictures which formerly adorned their Eastern homes, and a good collection of the most popular authors, is not rare. They have all the characteristics of Western people generally; possessing all the accumulative business instincts of the live Yankee without his wooden nutmeg proclivities; earnest, active, industrious, hospitable and generous.

Church services are well attended; Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, Disciples, and United Brethren, each vie with the other in occupying the field, and maintain their respective organizations with interest. The numerous fraternal organizations embracing Odd Fellows, Masons, Grangers and Good Templars, all find an extensive field for the diffusion of their humane and benevolent principles, and all may find congenial society whatever may be their predilection with one exception. The devotee of Bacchus is not appreciated, consequently the political complexion is republican. School houses are rapidly springing up all over these boundless prairies and under the very liberal school laws of the State which devotes every sixteenth and thirty-sixth section of land in each township to school purposes, and requires each district to maintain nine months school out of the twelve, we may predict for Nebraska a bright and prosperous future, for it is said "knowledge is power."

In 1870 the counties of Webster and Franklin, adjoining each other, contained about sixteen souls; now these two counties each embrace a population of about two thousand each, and the former boasts of the first bridge spanning the Republican river Less than three years ago the Republican valley and surrounding country was held by the numerous tribes of hostile Indians.

At the present time, the most rigorous part of our winter season, with mercury at five degrees below zero, and it seldom attains even that temperature, and with three or four inches of snow on the ground, the tide of emigration continues to flow in with unabated interest.

There is plenty of land subject to homesteading, many of the claims having both timber and water, yet to be had, but the choicest claims have all been taken, even beyond the government survey. But the almost boundless prairies afford magnificent farms, only they are back from the streams. But these are so numerous it would be difficult to get very far from some of them. Or, if the land seeker prefers, he can purchase the very choicest lands in the State at from one dollar and a half to six dollars per acre.

Railroads are being surveyed all over the state, and but a short time will elapse until we will enjoy all the facilities for travel and transportation of older states. Only a few years ago the map pointed to this as the "Great American Desert;" now to behold its teeming thousands, all engaged in the business pursuits of life, with almost unparalleled success, and the rapid strides it is making towards material wealth and prosperity, would strike the beholder with wonder and admiration.

Now, Mr. Editor, does it not seem absurd for young, hearty, robust men to crowd around those over-populated centers, throwing their unappreciated services into a depreciated and overstocked market, always "hard up," and making no provision for the future, wishing for "something to turn up" to better their circumstances, ignoring the bounty of Government, which has provided them one hundred and sixty acres of good land, or, by taking a timber claim joining a homestead, can have three hundred and twenty acres in one of the most delightful countries in the world, without any money save land office fees, in its purchase? I would repeat the language of the late Horace Greeley to all such, "Come West, young man, come West."

R. B. FULTON,

Cheap Transportation.

The National Cheap Transportation Convention met on the 14th in Lyceum Hall, Washington. Joshua Quincy in the chair. Mr. Quincy, in his address, advocated legislative restrictions on Railroads in matters of freights, etc.; also, the construction of great national water lines. He referred to the Niagara, Atlantic & Great Western, and James River & Kanawha Canals, and the improvement of the Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Cumberland and other rivers. His speech elicited great applause, especially that portion declaring the industrial interests of all sections so closely connected that no one could suffer without the other.

A Committee on Credentials was appointed, Col. B. W. Frobel, of Georgia, Chairman, and the Convention adjourned until 2 P. M.

The States are generally represented. Many members of Congress are delegates, among them Senator Sherman, Representatives Poland, White, of Ala., and others. The delegates have credentials from the Governors of their respective States.

In the afternoon session of the Cheap Transportation Convention, the Committee on Credentials reported qualified delegates from 15 States and the District of Columbia. The Committees on Water Routes and Railroad Transportation, consisting of one member from each State and Territory, and Canada, were appointed by the Chair, to whom all memorials and resolutions will be referred. Judge Poland addressed the Convention, after which it adjourned.

In the National Cheap Transportation Convention, now in session in Washington, the Railroad Committee reported in favor of federal legislation restricting Railroad freights, and in many respects controlling their management, also recommending a national narrow-gauge Railroad between the eastern and western seaports, to be built at the expense of the United States Government.

Judge L. Cochran, of Georgia, presented a minority report, declaring that Congress has no right to regulate freight charges on existing Railroads. The right to regulate commerce does not mean to build Railroads to carry on commerce. The power to regulate is one thing, but the power to create is another. Charters created by States are legislative contracts, which neither States nor Congress can touch without violating the fundamental law. Other reasons are given against the majority report.

Both reports were received and laid over.

The Convention then took up the reports on water routes. The majority resolves that some system of internal transportation, to bring into freer intercourse the different sections of the country, is imperatively demanded to revive our foreign commerce and increase and develop our domestic trade, and that to effect this object, the United States government should improve the great rivers and lakes which form the natural channels of trade and connect these by such a system of canals as will open free and uninterrupted outlets from the interior to the sea, and means of inter-communication between the States themselves. The construction of these works is the present object in view, and matters of detail may be safely left to the wisdom of Congress.

A minority report on the same subject suggests that the Convention propose to Congress such an enlargement of the Erie Canal and Lake route as may be practicable, and the enlargement and extension of the Illinois & Michigan Canal to the Mississippi River at Rock Island, together with the completion of the work on Illinois River, which will furnish additional and cheaper transportation from the great grain-producing region of the Northwest to the seaboard; also be the means of effectually cheapening the rates for freight upon all the railroads running to the Mississippi river from the mouth of the Ohio to our Northern limits; and such improvement of the Mississippi river at its mouth and elsewhere as may be needed to furnish good navigation to the gulf; and a third route from the Mississippi river to the seaboard by the Tennessee river route, called the Atlantic & Great Western.

There was a general discussion of the reports, but without action the Convention adjourned.

At the next session the Convention will determine upon plans to be suggested to Congress and the Legislatures of the several States.

The following principle is embodied in the report from the Railroad Committee:

Railroads are highways and Railroad Companies are common carriers. Congress should provide adequate penalties for the violation of highways and common carrier liabilities in commerce between States, and the several State Legislatures should provide the same, in case of commerce by rail within their respective jurisdiction.

In the Cheap Transportation Convention on the 17th, the majority report of the Committee on Railroads was adopted. It declares that relief must come from legislation by which our system of Railroads can be regulated and improved, and by competition which will completely carry out reforms which such legislation must inaugurate. It recommends a National law providing for a Bureau of Commerce and Transportation, &c., and that the members of the Association shall endeavor to obtain the passage of certain laws in their respective States, including a law prohibiting all Railroad Companies to transport the cars of other Companies, or of individuals, for just and impartial compensation and with the same dispatch as cars belonging exclusively to said Roads, &c. It calls for legislation, making it a penal offense for a public officer to accept or use a free pass of any Railroad Company, and prohibiting Railway Companies from granting passes to other than employes; and declaims granting of lands or subsidies in any form. It also recommends that Railroads and Canals to be constructed by the National Government, the manner of constructing railways to be by contract to the lowest bidder; when constructed, they should be used for the transportation of government property, and when not required for government use all citizens to have the right to place cars and locomotives thereon, and to operate the same, subject to regulations to be provided by the government, they paying toll therefor sufficient to maintain the roadway.

Josiah Quincy was elected President, with a Vice-President from each State, and R. H. Ferguson as Secretary.

The next session will be held in Richmond, the time to be fixed by the Executive Committee.

James Baker and B. R. Bonner were admitted delegates from St. Louis.

Senator Windom addressed the Convention, and said the Committee of the Senate, of which he is the Chairman, had been employed in gathering much information. He could not now speak as to what the report would be, but had no doubt it would be satisfactory, and expressed the opinion that it would be ready to present to the Senate about the first of February.

Resolutions were adopted that the Convention ask of Congress, as a means of relief to the country, the enlargement of the Erie Canal and the Lake route; the enlargement and extension of the Illinois & Michigan Canal to the Mississippi River at Rock Island, together with the completion of the work on the Illinois River; the improvement of the Mississippi River and the Tennessee River route, the latter known as the Atlantic & Great Western Canal; the extension of the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal from Cumberland, Md., to some point on the Ohio River, and the control of the water line through Virginia.

Standing Committees were appointed, and to them plans for said reports on cheap transportation were referred, with instructions to present the results of their consideration of the several papers to Senator Windom.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

Meeting of Legislatures.

The message of the Governor of Kansas was read to the Legislature on the 15th. It treats of the rapid growth and development of the State during the past year; favors the increase of national currency, and the abolition of National Banks; the election of U. S. Senators by the people; the semi-annual payment of taxes; a Constitutional Convention, and repeal of the law assessing railroads on their gross receipts. The finances of the State are shown to be in an excellent condition, there being at present no warrants outstanding, and with a balance in the Treasury, a thing never before known in the history of the State. On the subject of the disputed title to the Osage ceded lands, the Government pays, it is estimated there are more than 20,000 people on these disputed lands. The courts of the country are few and against them, and will remain closed, unless the Government of the United States should come to their relief. "To conclude that these people are to be deprived of their homes without having first had an opportunity to test the legal question involved before the properly constituted tribunals of the country, is arraigning the Government as a flagrant oppressor and wrong doer. I am not prepared for such a conclusion; on the contrary, believe Congress will, if properly appealed to by you, adopt such legislation as will result in a final settlement of this troublesome controversy by the properly constituted Courts."

The Georgia Legislature met on the 15th. The Governor, in his message, takes a cheerful view of the public affairs. The State debt is $8,000,000, and it is estimated that the value of taxable property of is $250,000,000. The Senate approved the final action of Congress on the salary question.

The Pope and the College of Cardinals have for some time consulted as to who would be the best person to elect as successor of the Holy Father, in the event of his sudden death. By a very considerable majority their selection has fallen upon Cardinal Pecci, Archbishop of Perugia, and there is little or no doubt but that he will be the next Pope.

—Remove from the blood those wastes arising from the action of the system which if allowed to remain in the circulation, give rise to diseases which speedily destroy life. Nature has appointed the kidneys and liver as her agents, by whom impurities shall be eliminated from the system, and when these agents are torpid, or debilitated, or disabled from any cause, for their business, Hamilton's Buchu and Dandelion imparts fresh life and vigor to them and makes of them the best blood purifiers one can have. This preparation is for sale at your drug stores.

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Did you ever see a child that did not have holes through the toes of its shoes. If you did they were protected by SILVER TIPS. They never wear through at the toe. Try them.

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There is no condition more deplorable than that of those who, by impure habits, dissipation, excesses, etc., have become broken down in health and mental stamina, the youth of both sexes being the more frequent victims, the examples being as numerous as deplorable. The sensitiveness of parents on this subject is too well known for comment, but those who are ill must be helped. The world is replete with remedies for those complaints, but the majority of such cannot be relied upon. You, who suffer, try KEARNEY'S EXTRACT BUCHU. It will restore you to perfect health in a short time. Depot 104 Duane street, New York. Send for Pamphlet.

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The Sun.

NEW YORK, 1873-4, WEEKLY, SEMI-WEEKLY, AND DAILY.

THE WEEKLY SUN is too widely known to require any extended recommendation: but the reasons which have already given it fifty thousand subscribers, and which will, we hope, give it many thousands more, are briefly as follows:

It is a first-rate newspaper. All the news of the day will be found in it, condensed when unimportant, at full length when of moment, and always presented in a clear, intelligible, and interesting manner.

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Reading for Little Folks.

ROBBIE'S "HAPPY NEW YEAR."

"I'm just free years old and a half, sir,
And I 'peak just as p'ain as can be;
And I'm doing to tell you what happened
When 'Happy New Years' came to me.

"I had lots of p'esents for Kissmas;
I had a nice big 'Noah's Ark,'
Wild cows, sheeps, and pussy-cats in it,
And doggies what never would bark.

"Well they to'd me, the night before New Year's,
That Santa C'ause wouldn't come down;
And they tucked me away in my cribbie,
All wrapped in my long white night-gown.

"In the morning I woke kite early,
For I heard kite a noise—seemed to me;
So I peeked trough my cribbie, and littened,
As kiet, you know, as could be.

"And there was my G'andma a-sittin',
With somethin' done up in her lap,
And Papa was laughin' kite softly,
And Mamma was taking a nap.

"Then Papa, he took me to G'andma,
And what do you fink I did see?
A baby just come down from Hebben,
To keep 'Happy New Year' wid me!

"So now you may have all my Kissmas,—
My nice 'Noah's Ark'—and the rest;
I shan't p'as wid p'aysings no longer,
For I like baby-sister the best!"

—*S. M. Welsh.*

Charlie's Watch Meeting.

"Now, there's mischief gwine to be did! I know it sure and sartin. Them boys has been a rubbagin in the woodshed, and there's two of my taller candles missin'—rats eat 'em, they'll say. Well, bein as this is holler days, I spose it won't do to tell missis." And old Dinah tied another knot in her yellow neckerchief, and went back to the kitchen.

Away went Charlie, Willie and Robbie to the barn. That morning the boys had heard their parents say they were going to "watch meeting" that night.

"What is watch meeting, father?" asked Willie.

"Oh, we watch the Old Year out, and the New Year in," answered his father. "And when midnight chimes on the bell, we chant a good hymn. We sing and pray until 12 o'clock. You know this is the last day of 1873."

"Mayn't I go?" spoke up Charlie.

"Oh no, my son; you could not keep awake, and little folks are better in bed."

Charlie inwardly rebelled at this; thought he could keep awake as well as anybody, and finally persuaded his younger brothers to have watch meeting with him on a small scale. So away they went to the barn, immediately after their parents had left for church, the latter having charged them to retire at the usual hour.

A large threshing machine having been turned upon its side for repairs, the boys converted it into a pulpit. Two empty bottles served to hold the candles purloined from Dinah, and with a great show of reverence, their small prayer books were laid beside the same. Three long narrow boxes were ranged side by side for pews, but contrary to general usage each box contained a couple or apples—"Just to help keep a fellow awake," said Charlie.

The old brindle cow looked round rather doubtfully at the unusual proceedings, and a brooding hen in the loft above kept such a fussing that wisps of hay were being thrown down constantly upon the pulpit.

"Never mind them," said Charlie, ringleader in the mischief, "they'll think its Christmas yet. You know God was born in a stable. But, boys, we must sing. You know father said they sang and prayed until midnight. We will keep awake until the hour strikes on the town clock, and then we will be off to bed before father and mother comes home. What shall we sing?"

Robbie, the youngest, suggested "Put me in my little bed."

"Not just yet," said Charlie, "but I suppose you'll be wanting us to *practice* that before we get through with such a wee fellow as you. Let's begin with 'I want to be an angel,' and he opened the book and "lined off" the hymn with considerable pride. Had Dinah not taken advantage of her mistress's permission to spend the evening out, she would surely have thought the barn tenanted by ghosts, or that the cattle were celebrating a second Christmas. The boys' music was neither strong nor melodious, and at a little distance might easily have been mistaken for something else.

But the apples were all eaten, little heads began to drop, and little voices to fail. "Let's move back and lean our heads against the manger," suggested Willie; "you know the deacons always lean back in church."

The advice was quickly followed, and at half-past eleven the snoring was one degree less musical than the singing had been. The old hen, getting tired of the noise and light, settled herself for the twentieth time on her chicks, and in so doing threw down two straws. One lit direct upon a candle placed upon the impromptu pulpit, wavered a moment, took fire, and fell inside a small crevice in the machine. Slowly was the blaze kindled, straw after straw became ignited, and when twelve o'clock chimed on the neighboring steeple, the machine itself was on fire, and three little boys were in imminent danger of being burned to death. Ten minutes struck, then the quarter, and Willie moved uneasily as the heat became greater. Just then old brindle reached forth her milky mouth and seized Charlie by the hair—his head was directly against her feeding trough—whether accidentally, or not, was never known. He jumped to his feet in a terrible fright, called to the boys, and taking a hand of each, rushed from the barn. Their clothes were scorched in reaching the door, but they were so sleepy they did not fully realize the danger from which they had escaped until safely within their own home.

By this time the people were coming from church. The boys' watch meeting had nearly burned the barn; that of the old folks saved it. Men went to work with a will, turned on water, and at last extinguished the flames.

Mr. and Mrs. Cramer were too thankful for the escape of their little boys, to find much fault with their proceedings. New Year's morning, however, their father pointed out to them what might have been the terrible consequences of their disobedience, and presented each with a pocket diary.

"This will help you, boys, to watch the coming year through every month and day. The Bible teaches us to watch and pray always. Each day you can record any action you think not just right, and the next one try to have a better entry to make. At the end of the year you will find you have not only watched the year, but yourselves, and will be better boys in consequence. Now put on your caps, and off to play, not forgetting this day to make a grand, glorious, good beginning for the year 1874. —*O. K. Journal.*

Grandpa's Boots.

How the stars did snap that December night! The moon was up too; and how cold and white she looked!

And how busy Jack Frost was! No one saw him swing a hammer; no one heard him drive a nail; but, by the time morning had come, he had laid right across the ponds and the river a floor of ice smoother than any wooden floor ever put down by the joiners of Norridgewock.

All the boys were out sliding. Ed. Peet had come from over the river; Fred. Danforth was there from the tavern; and George Sawtelle came running up from the big house under the willow. Bess was there, too, slipping along after Fred's boys.

Little Albert looked out of the window and saw the boys at their play. Why couldn't he go out too?

"Shall I go, mother?" he asked.

"Your slippers are too thin, Albert."

"Oh! I can put on grandpa's boots."

"Yes, you can go, but be careful. You are too young for such sport."

Off scampered the eager feet, and on went the big boots. A smile must have lighted up the mother's eyes as she heard her little boy tramping over the floor in the heavy boots.

The boys were taking their turn at sliding. Away down at the end of the line stood Albert. They were sliding carefully, not running too hard; for a little way out the ice was thin. After a while, it was Albert's turn. "I'll beat those big clumsy boys," he thought.

Taking a long run, driving ahead with all his force, he shouted, "Now see your grandpa go!" And, sure enough, grandpa's boots went and went, out where the ice was thin, and down went Albert into the water! The water was not deep, though. He was out again in a moment; and there he stood, cold and dripping, like an icicle in a January thaw.

I can hear the boys laughing, and I seem to see the smile lighting up the mother's brown eyes still more merrily when her little boy came home. Albert never forgot it. In after years he would say, "Whenever I am inclined to show off, I think of grandpa's boots."—*The Nursery.*

By the Sea.

Boys who have been born and brought up by the sea wonder what sort of fun they who live in-land can possibly have. To be sure, there are the woods and streams to give them some sort of sport; it is true, they have squirrel and rabbit-hunting, the delights of gunning, the pleasures of "going in a-swimming," where the mill-pond and the pebbly streamlets sparkle in the sun or glide under the cool shadows of the willows; but, as a boy, I used to think that the poor fellows who never knew salt water, nor saw the furious breakers dash on the rocky coast of New England, were much to be pitied. And when once, while I was a little chap, I was taken on a visit to Bucksport, it seemed as if I should stifle in the close air of the country town, which had no water near it but a contemptible river flowing past. The sea seemed so far away that I thought I should lose my breath before I could get to its salt air again. But perhaps I was homesick.

When the gale was high and the long rollers came thundering on the beach, Aunt Rachel used to take me by the hand and lead me along the lonely shore. It was almost terrible to look over the immense waves as they came piling over each other, and to see, far out on the stormy sea, the dancing fishing-boats, now riding on top of the sea and now disappearing in the watery trough of the wind-swept ocean. Sometimes a bit of broken spar would come tumbling in from the far-off waves, to tell its story of wreck and disaster. Once, while the gale was howling and the breakers were crashing along the shore, Aunt Rachel snatched from a foaming wave a piece of a ship's rail, with a part of a child's dress clinging to it. Where was the little one who had worn this garment? And in what dismal wreck had some distressed mother tied it to this floating wood? Nothing ever came from the sea to tell us.

But all was not sad and tragical by the sea. Such larks as we used to have by the Back Cove shores! On Saturday afternoons we tore mussels from the rocks at low tide, or dug clams from the watery sand, and roasted them in fires of drift-wood. Or we build rafts of the loose wood along the beach and paddled about the broad cove. If the frail raft fell to pieces and let the half-naked youngsters into the salt water, there was enough swimmers to save those who could not swim. Then there were the joys of boat-building and sailing; and how eagerly we watched the rude little craft as their birch bark sails faded away in the blue waters of the bay. In the drift, along the beach, we found all sorts of curious things; not only bits of wreck, but fragments of clothing, curious and unknown shells, foreign nuts; and once the whole shore was strewn with big russet apples, lost overboard, perhaps, from some distressed trading schooner.—*St. Nicholas.*

The Humor of the Day.

THE MAC'S AND O'S.

When Ireland was founded by the Mac's and the O's,
I never could learn, for nobody knows;
But history says they came over from Spain,
To visit Old Granau, and there to remain.
Our fathers were heroes—for wisdom and fame;
For multiplication they practiced the same.
St. Patrick came over to hear their complaints,
And very soon made them an Island of saints.

The harp and the shamrock were carried before
Brave Roderick O'Conner and Roger O'Moore;
And the good and the bad deeds of the Mac's and the O's,
And this is the tale that these verses discloses:
Hugh Neil, of Tyrone, O'Donnel, O'Moore,
O'Brick, O'Kelly, O'Connell galore—
All houses so royal, so loyal and old;
One drop of their blood was worth ounces of gold.

McDonnel, McDougal, O'Curran, O'Keeffe,
Sly Redmond O'Hanlan, the Rappery chief;
O'Malley, O'Mally, O'Sullivan rare,
O'Fally, O'Dally, O'Burns of Kildare,
O'Dougherty, chief of the isle Inishone,
McGinness, the prince of the vallers of Down;
The Colleranz, Hollerans, every one knows,
The Rafferty, Flaherty, they were all O's.

One-eyed king McCormick, and great Phil. McCoole,
McCarty of Dermot, and Tooley O'Toole,
Hugh Neil the grand, and great Brian Boru;
Sir Tagen, O'Regen, and Con Donohue,
O'Hara, O'Marra, O'Conner, O'Cane,
O'Carroll, O'Farrell, O'Brennan, O'Drane,
With Murtagh McDermot, the wicked old Turk,
Who had a crim. con. with the wife of O'Rourke.

McGra, McGrath, McGill, McKeon,
McFadden, McFadden, McCarron, McGloon,
McGarren, McFarren, McCleary, McCoy,
McHaley, McClinch, McKirath, McElroy,
McMullen, McClellan, Mcgillan, McFinn,
McCullaun, McCunn, McManus, McGin,
McGinley, McKinley, McKelfrey, McKay,
McCurrall, McFarroll, McCurecky, Molley.

O'Dillon, O'Dolan, O'Davlin, O'Doyle,
O'Mullen, O'Nolan, O'Nolan, O'Boyle,
O'Murray, O'Rooney, O'Cooney, O'Kane,
O'Cary, O'Leary, O'Shea, and O'Shane,
O'Brien, O'Rourke, O'Reilly, O'Neil,
O'Hagan, O'Reagan, O'Fagan, O'Sheil,
O'Dennis, O'Dwyer, O'Blaney, O'Flynn,
O'Grady, O'Shaughnessy, Bryan O'Lynn.

The daughters of Erin are: Ellen O'Roone,
And Nora Cushla, and Sheiah McClone,
With Kathleen Mavourneen and Molly Ashtore,
The beautiful charmers we love and adore.
There is Donah McCushla and Widow McChree;
There is Molly McGuire and Biddy McGee.
There is dear Nora Creina and Shelish McGrath,
And the mother of all is sweet Erin go Bragh.

"Who Put Dat Money on Dat Ace?"

The recent plan of our enlightened Secretary of the Treasury for resuming specie payments with a teapotful of silver halves and quarters, to be paid out in sums not exceeding $5 to each billholder as long as they lasted, reminds us of an incident said to have occurred at a small faro bank, kept by a colored gentleman in St. Louis, at the beginning of the war. The proprietor, a haughty old house-servant from Virginia, and who had somehow got his freedom and had strayed westward, although his capital was small and his banking house a humble shanty in the suburbs, inspired immense awe in the crowd of blacks who came to woo chance under his roof, by wearing a terrible frown, a suit of sooty black, a vast shirt collar and a ruffled shirt, to which last garment the boldest African mind surrendered at discretion. The stakes, as may be imagined, were exceedingly small, being nicely proportioned to the capital of the bank, and ranging from half dimes to quarter dollars, the last being the highest single bet that was permitted. The son of the proprietor acted as dealer, while his dignified sire paced the room during the evening sessions and kept a general oversight of the gamesters. One evening a couple of army officers induced their black servant by the present of a small fee to smuggle them into the temple of luck, where whites were not commonly tolerated, and, providing that facial menial with ten silver dollars, instructed him to put them on the ace. The proprietor, who was absorbed in spelling out the news from the evening paper, had not observed the entrance of the strangers nor the queer turn the game had taken. Presently, however, he lifted his eyes and saw the fabulous pile of specie glittering over the painted cards. For a moment he was struck dumb, but recovering his voice he cried out in a tone of thunder, "Who put dat money on dat ace?" There was a dead silence. The trembling darkies were all afraid to answer. "Who put dat money on dat ace?" repeated the outraged son of Guinea. There was no answer, and he went on: "Whoever put dat money on dat ace had better take dat money off dat ace, and be damn quick about it, too. You niggahs mus' think thah's some of dese here Riffchiles roun' dis bank."

A Kansas paper gives the following report of a Judge's sentence, lately passed on a criminal: "Brumley, you infamous scoundrel! You're an unredeemed villian! You hain't a single redeemed trait in your character. Your wife and family wish we had sent you to the Penitentiary. This is the fifth time I've had you before me, and you have put me to more trouble than your neck is worth. I've exhorted and prayed over you long enough, you scoundrel. Just go home and take one glimpse at your family, and be off in short order! Don't let's ever hear of you again! The grand jury have found two other indictments against you, but I'll discharge you on your own recognizances, and if I ketch you in this neck of woods to-morrow morning at daylight, I'll sock you right in jail and hump you off to Jeffersonville in less than no time, you infamous scoundrel. If ever I catch you crossing your finger at man, woman or child—white man or nigger—I'll sock you right square into the jug! Stand up, you scoundrel, while I pass sentence on you!"

That was a noble youth who, on being urged to take wine at the table of a statesman at Washington, had the moral courage to refuse. He was a poor young man just beginning the struggle of life. He brought letters to the statesman, who kindly invited him home to dinner.

"Not take a glass of wine?" said the statesmen in wonderment and surprise. "Not one simple glass of wine?" echoed the statesman's beautiful and fascinating wife, as she arose, glass in hand, and with a grace that would have charmed an anchorite, endeavored to press it upon him.

"No," said the heroic youth, resolutely, gently repelling the proffered glass.

What a picture of moral grandeur was that. A poor friendless youth refusing wine at the table of a wealthy statesman even though proffered by the hands of a beautiful lady!

"No," said the young man and his voice trembled a little, and his cheek flushed, "I never drink wine; but, (here he straightened himself up and his voice grew firmer), "if you've got any good rye whisky, I don't mind trying a snifter."

The patridge iz a game bird. Their game iz tew drum on a log in the spring ov the year, and keep both eyes open, watching the sportsmen. Patridges are shot on the wing, and are az easy to miss az a ghost iz. It iz phun enuff to see the old bird hide her young brood when danger iz near. This must be seen; it kant be described and make enny body believe it. The patridge, grouse and pheasant are cousins, and either one ov them stradule a gridiron natural enuff tew have bin born thare. Take a couple ov yung partidges and pot them down, and serve up with the right kind ov a chorus, and they beat the ham sandwich yu buy on the Camden and Amboy Railroad 87½ per cent. I hav eat theze lamentable Nu Jersey ham sandwich, and must sa that I prefer a couple ov bass-wood chips, soaked in mustard-water, and stuk together with Spaulding's glue.—*Josh Billings.*

The following strong figure of speech was used to illustrate the great size of America to a Pat who could not make up his mind about emigrating:

"Where did the 'baccey come from? why from 'Merika, where else? that sent us the petaty. Long life to it for both, says I!"

"What sort of a place is that, I wonder?"

"'Merika! They tell me it's mighty sizable. I'm told that you might roll England through it, an' it would hardly make a dint in the ground. There's a fresh water inside of it that you might thrown Ireland in, an' save Father Mathew a wonderful sight of trouble; an' as for Scotland, you might stick it in a corner of one of their forests an' you'd never be able to find it, except it might be by the smell of the whiskey!"

Old Col. S——, one of the State Senators of Minnesota, tells this of himself:

He was going down to St. Paul to join the session, when a train-boy passed through the car, and approaching the old Colonel, and shoving his wares into his lap, sung out;

"Buy a deck of cards?"—only half a dollar.

Turning to the lad with an expression of countenance calculated to impress him with the enormity of the offense the Colonel solemnly and slowly said:

"My son, I never play cards, I am a member of the church."

"Oh!" exclaimed the disgusted urchin; "I thought you was a member of the legislature."

A lady was asked by her Biddy about the nature of the next world, and whether it would be just like this. The lady being blessed with a happy family of eleven children, has a skeleton in the house in the shape of a stocking-basket that never gets empty, and at whose side she has spent many a weary midnight hour in darning for her darlings. With this spectre before her eyes, she replied to the girl playfully, saying:

"I don't think we shall be required to darn stockings after midnight."

"Sure and that's thrue for you, mum," was Biddy's reply, "for all the pictures of angels I have ever seen were barefooted."

Boswell once asked Johnson if there were no possible circumstances under which suicide would be justifiable. "No," said Johnson. "Well" said Boswell, "suppose a man had been guilty of fraud, and that he was certain to be found out." "Why, then," was the reply, "in that case let him go to some country where he is not known, and not to the devil where he is known."

A St. Louis Alderman's opinion is reported verbatim to the effect that, "Horses is 'fraider of dummies than street-cars."

Popular Science.

Scientific Notes.

Mr. Alfred Conru has recently made an experimental determination of the velocity of light. The rate of movement obtained is 180,200 miles per second in a vacuum. This agrees very closely with the result obtained by Foucault by a different method in calculating the parallax of the sun. This number gives the value 8.86, which agrees with that obtained recently by M. Leverrier; it must, therefore, be accepted as being very near the true number.

Antiquaries have been of the opinion that the weapons and implements of bronze found in Switzerland have been manufactured, not in that country, but beyond the Alps, and that they had been obtained thence by the Helvetians in the way of trade. Latterly, however, a few more have been discovered in France and Germany; and very recently, Dr. Gros, of Neuville, has made a discovery in the course of researches at the lake station of Meyringen, a site remarkable for the quantity and excellent condition of bronzes which have been found. Here the Doctor has unearthed sundry highly interesting things, among which are crucible-beds, channels for the overflowing metal, and other matters, giving evidence that a foundery had existed on the spot; besides a large number of moulds for the castings.

Death in the Syrup-Jug.

Probably there are very few articles of daily consumption which are not adulterated in a more or less vile manner. One of the most scoundrelly impositions that unscrupulous rascals practice upon a long-suffering public is the scandalous compound sold as sugar sirup. It is asserted that nearly fifty per cent. of the article sold under the seductive names of golden sirup, silver drips, etc., is a rank poison formed by the action of sulphuric acid upon some of the substances containing the essential material of wood fiber. The quantity of sulphuric acid used to form sugar by this process is so great that it cannot be thoroughly extracted from the product. It leaves enough to be dangerous even to the stomachs of robust men—excessively so to the more delicate organizations of children, who use far more of the article than grown persons.

Since public attention has been called to this rascality, many instances have come to light of mysterious sicknesses which disappeared on the use of this breakfast dainty being discontinued. Severe burning pains at the stomach, and racking pains are among the lighter symptoms of sirup-poisoning. A case is mentioned where the cork in a keg of sirup sent for the use of a lumberman's camp, was found to be nearly eaten away. Fancy a vile drug, which will corrode cork, gnawing away at the coat of one's stomach. In the future we will worry down buckwheat cakes without the adventitious aid of sweetening, unless sufficient guarantees of the character of the article be furnished along with it.

Fortunately the detection of the pernicious stuff is easy. A small quantity of muriate or nitrate of baryta, mixed with water, makes a clear solution. If to this be added a small quantity of sulphuric acid, a white precipitate is formed, which is insoluble in water. Tannin also gives a black precipitate, unless the acids have been neutralized by albumen.

If any of our readers have reason for looking upon their matutinal sirup with suspicion, let them at once take a sample to a chemist and have it analyzed. If found to be dangerous, let the makers and retailers be prosecuted with the same vigor that wholesale murderers would meet with.

Mental Action a Physical Process.

It is now a well-established physiological fact that mental action is a distinctly physical process, depending primarily on a chemical reaction between the blood and the brain, precisely as muscular action depends primarily on a chemical reaction between the blood and the muscular tissues. Without the free circulation of blood in the brain, there can be neither thought nor sensation, neither emotions nor ideas. It necessarily follows that thought, the only form of brain-action which we have here to consider, is a process not merely depending upon, but in its turn affecting, the physical condition of the brain, precisely as muscular exertion of any given kind depends on the quality of the muscles employed and affects the condition of those muscles, not at the moment only, but thereafter, conducing to their growth and development if wisely adjusted to their power, or causing waste and decay if excessive and too long continued. It is important to notice that this is not a mere analogy. The relation between thought and the condition of the brain is a reality. So far as this statement affects our ideas about actually existent mental power, it is of little importance; for it is not more useful to announce that a man with a good brain will possess good mental powers than to say that a muscular man will be capable of considerable exertion. But as it is of extreme importance to know of the relation which exists between muscular exercise and the growth or development of bodily strength, so it is highly important for us to remember that the development of mental power depends largely on the exercise of the mind. There is a "training" for the brain as well as for the body—a real physical training—depending, like bodily training, on rules as to nourishment, method of action, quantity of exercise, etc.—"*Growth and Decay of Mind,*" *in Popular Science Monthly for January.*

Tests of Mental Strength.

The great difficulty in judging of the growth and development of the mind consists in the want of any reliable measure of mental strength—any mental dynamometer, so to speak. Our competetive examinations are attempts in this direction, but very imperfect ones, as experience has long since shown. Neither acquired knowledge nor the power of acquiring knowledge, is any true measure of mental strength. The power of solving mathematical problems is not necessarily indicative even of mathematical power, far less of general mental power. The ordinary tests of classical knowledge, again, have little real relation to mental strength. It may be urged that our most eminent men have, for the most part, been distinguished, at school or university, by either mathematical or classical knowledge, or both. This is doubtless true; but so it would be the case that they would have distinguished themselves above their fellows at public school or university if the heads of these establishments had in their wisdom set Chinese puzzling as the primary test of merit. The powerful mind will show its superiority (in general) in any task that may be assigned it; and, if the test of distinction is to be the skilful construction of Greek and Latin verse, or readiness in treating mathematical problems, a youth of good powers, unless he be wanting in ambition, will acquire the necessary qualifications, even though he has no special taste for classical or mathematical learning, and is even perfectly assured that in after-life he will never pen a sapphic or set down an equation of motion.

To Exterminate Ants.

The New York *World* tells how housekeepers can rid the nuisances of red and black ants. It says that one succeeded by filling cups with water, and placing them under the sink and cupboard, removing all crumbs and everything they could eat from the shelves. They all left. Another way is to wash the places they haunt with strong alum water, and leave it standing in a vessel thereabouts. Another method is to place a strong meat bone where the ants can get at it, and they flock to it in large numbers. When they are on it, dip it in hot water; repeat a few times, and the ants will have disappeared. Another remedy is to boil four ounces of quassia in a gallon of water for ten minutes, and add four ounces of soap. This poured on their nests will destroy them. This is intended to destroy a nest of black ants, when it is found. For red ants, another remedy that has proved successful is: Take six or seven drops of oxalic acid, and mix it with a small teacupful of melted lard, and set this preparation wherever the ants are troublesome, and they will disappear in a short space of time. Carbolic acid, applied with a swab of raw cotton, on a thin stick, to the edge of the shelves, and where they seem to come from, will cause them to disappear, but before it is applied, all butter and milk, should be removed from the vicinity, for both will absorb the odor emitted therefrom, which will give flavor thereto. But ants will not haunt the vicinity of carbolic acid, whether they are black, or red ants. Pulverized borax, sprinkled about the place infested by ants, is said to exterminate them. Another way adopted by some housekeepers, is to saturate a sponge with water, and sprinkle it with fine, powdered sugar. The ants will enter it, and may be immersed in boiling water, and thus destroyed. Wash the place infested with cresylic soap, or spirits of turpentine, and it is said they will avoid it.

A New Kind of Wall.

A wall, lately invented, is coming into use in England, the advantages claimed for which are the very important ones of the non-absorbence of moisture, non-conduction of heat, economy of space, a washable surface and withal cheapness. Over a framework of strong cross wires, of about one-eighth of an inch thick, there is woven, by a powerful pressure, fibrous matter, which is saturated with a solution that renders it fire proof. It is then subjected to a very powerful pressure. A coating of light Scott's cement is then put upon it for inside facing, and Portland cement for outside facing. By this means surfaces are made impermeable to moisture, smooth, and easily washed with water, thus saving the expense of repeated lime washings. It is formed into slabs in iron frames, which are put together and closely and securely fastened with bolts. The slabs are from one and a half to four inches thick. They are found to serve as a superb panneling for dividing walls and partitions. Where the space is of importance, it has the advantage, perhaps, over concrete walling, in enabling a wall to be made of not more than one and a half or two inches of thickness, and yet its quality is said to greatly deaden sound.

Catching Bugs.

Although bugs are generally sound asleep at this time of year, it may be well to keep in mind the following method for destroying them, when the growing season comes again. If potato bugs could be trapped by a tar barrel, what a discovery that would be. A writer in a French horticultural journal relates this suggestive experience: "After sunset I place in the centre of my orchard an old barrel, the inside of which I have previously tarred. At the bottom of the barrel I place a lighted lamp. Insects of many kinds, attracted by the light, make for the lamp, and, while circling around it, strike against the sides of the barrel, where meeting with the tar, their wings and legs become so clogged that they fall helpless to the bottom. In the morning I examine the barrel, and frequently take out of it ten or twelve gallons of cockchafers, which I at once destroy. A few pence worth of tar employed in this way will, without any further trouble, be the means of destroying innumerable numbers of these insects, whose larvæ are among the most destructive pests the gardener or farmer has to contend against.

The Respiration of Serpents.

We mentioned the fact that in most species serpents have but one fully-developed lung. Into the cavity of this the trachea or windpipe terminates, and it has been stated that they "in a manner swallow air." What takes place in the process of breathing appears to be this. Unlike mammals, serpents, have no diaphragm, but by a movement of the ribs the cavity of the body is enlarged, and, a pressure being thus removed, the lung inflates and expands by the air passing into it. Another and opposite movement of the ribs expels the air, whence it appears that their process of breathing is essentially the same as in mammals. Nor are their lungs in structure essentially different. The air sacs or cells communicate with the principal pulmonary tube, but a vastly smaller surface is exposed to the inhaled air, and aeration of the blood is consequently extremely imperfect and incomplete.—*Popular Science Monthly.*

Miscellaneous.

PALESTINE.

What our Exploration Society is Doing—Inscriptions, Traditions, and Ruins.

In July, 1871, the American Palestine Exploration Society published their first statement, mainly an analysis of the work before them, and announcing their expectation that before the close of that year their exploring party would be in the field. The difficulty experienced in the selection of a competent engineer was not, however, overcome until a year or so later, when, persuaded of the fitness of Lieutenant E. Z. Steever, Jr., of the United States Army, the society tendered him the position. It was accepted. Lieutenant Steever sailed in November, 1872, with Professor Paine, the eminent archæologist and naturalist, and on the 6th of January, 1873, the party safely landed at Beirut.

The second statement of the society, just published, is an admirable resume of the expedition's first year in the field, and contains, in addition, some valuable papers upon kindred subjects, and which cannot but keenly excite the interest of all persons of cultivated tastes. Professor Paine contributes an article on

THE DISCOVERIES AT NAHR EL KELB

or Dog river (the Lycus or Wolf river of Strabo and Pliny), which empties into the Mediterranean about five miles north of Beirut, and the course of which forms a natural route into the heart of Lebanon and Cœle-Syria, having been used as such from very early times by monarchs of Egypt, Assyria, Syria and Rome. Along the rocky side of the southern bank of the river lies a road six feet broad, paved with large, uneven stones, and cut (it has been supposed) in the reign of Marcus Aurelius.

In many places the way is hewn out like a channel in the hard stone, and altogether the work must have been a most difficult and fatiguing one. Upon the face of one of the rocks on this great highway a Greek inscription has just been discovered, recording the triumph of its construction by "Proclus, a young Phœnician Prince, who left his home at Acre to become ruler of Baalbek." Yet this inscription is but one of many that are found in these and the neighboring rocky passes. Three Egyptian, six Assyrian, three Greek, and two Latin tablets have thus far been discovered to tell the history of the successive armies which have passed and repassed on their journeys.

Mr. J. Aug. Johnson, late our Consul in Syria, also contributes an extremely interesting paper on

THE MODERN CANAANITES,

who, though subject to Turkish rule, still maintain, with great tenacity, their distinct nationality and creed. These strange people are undoubtedly descendants of those sons of Canaan who were in possession of Arka and Hamath when Abraham came from Ur of the Chaldees. Many of their ancestor's castles, now standing, bear Jewish names, such as Joshua, Solomon and Zion. Their creed is a confused melange of Idolatry, Judaism, Christianity and Islamism. In their writings, Christ and Mahomet are spoken of as one and the same person, but appearing at different epochs. The women dress much the same as the men, all affecting red stripes in their gowns. A man may take as many wives as he can support and may divorce them at pleasure. Missionaries go among this people without fear, but as yet there are but two Americans there in that capacity.

THE HAMATH INSCRIPTIONS

form the basis for the most important article in this interesting work. The stones bearing these inscriptions are four in number and were all found in the ancient city of Hamath, whence the Turkish Government has recently taken them to enrich the Imperial museum at Constantinople. One was built into the wall of a house, another into that of a small shop, another lying in a lane, another in a garden. The inscriptions are not incised, but raised, and the characters are rounded and wrought with considerable care. It is a singular fact that three of the four stones, though found in different spots, bear inscriptions exactly identical. The number of separate characters is between fifty and sixty, and the lines read alternately from right to left, and left to right. The problem of deciphering them is difficult, and perhaps impossible. It would seem that the people using these characters occupied considerable territory, for similar ones have been found in Aleppo and Babylonia. Only time, patience and perseverence can unravel the story which they tell of centuries and people long departed.

HASN SULAYMAN,

or the "Strongbold of Solomon," one of the most interesting and magnificent ruins in Syria, is the subject of a paper from the Rev. Samuel Jessup, one of our missionaries to that country. This spot is reached by boat fifty miles north of Beirut, and thence inland a two day's ride on horseback. Situated in a basin among the Nusaireeych mountains, there is much of mystery about both its name and location. The people say that giant devils built it, and that no sons of men could ever have placed the huge blocks of stone, some thirty feet long and high, where, in spite of ages of earthquakes, they now lie. There are two principal ruins or enclosures, and the architecture in each is of the most refined and interesting character, and on a scale which excites the deepest wonder and admiration. Latin and Greek inscriptions, probably left by renovators of the edifices, are found, but from them we get no clue as to who first gave the world this majestic structure.

Hindoo Belles.

"The Hindoo women," says a writer in *Frazer's Magazine*, "attracted me most by their graceful carriage, their picturesque drapery, consisting of a full skirt and a sort of burnous, which passes over the head, almost completely veiling the face. These vary in in color, being sometimes bright blue, and pink and yellow, the skirt often bordered with a hem of some other color, often very gaudy, but the dark skin harmonizes it all. The most artistic, to my mind, is the dark indigo blue, but it is more rare in the Northern than in the Southern India, where almost all the lower classes of women wear it. It is pleasant to watch the easy grace with which they walk, bearing round red earthen ware or bright copper water-jars on their heads, steadying their burden with one well-shaped, small-wristed, dusky arm stretched up to its full length, and covered almost to the elbow, and sometimes above it with numbers of bracelets. These are sometimes silver and often plated metal or red and green lace. I once heard of a school, the pupils of which were trained to walk about with tumblers of cold water on their head; and when I saw the firm-footed easy grace of these burden-bearing women, I regretted that the practice was not universal. The pale-faced race may perhaps pride itself on its superiority in the use of the contents of its head, but these dusky daughters of the sun certainly outdo their more favored sisters in the use they make of the outside of theirs. They carry everything on their heads, jars of water, pieces of cloth, baskets of vegetables, huge bundles of sugar cane, fuel, anything and everything, leaving their hands free for any additional burden. They do not even carry their little babies in their hands, but either balance them astride on their shoulders with the little hands on their mother's head, or else astride on one hip, encircled with a strong arm. I have seen a woman with four wather jars towering on her head, and her little baby on her hip, walking along with a springing grace, jingling her silvery anklets and toe-bells as she went."

DAN NOBLE'S EXPLOITS.

Conspicuous Robberies and Burglaries and Inexplicable Escapes.

[New York Sun.]

Daniel Noble recently further distinguished himself by escaping from a prison in Vienna. Captain Irving of the Central office detectives, who has known him from boyhood, tells his eventful story. He was a bold, plucky, good-hearted boy, liked to read romances, and thought Dick Turpin the greatest hero of fiction. When a mere boy he ran away from home. His father, John Noble, was a large-hearted, honest, hard-working man, who was proud of his boy. At sixteen young Noble made the acquaintance of Daniel Kelly and John Irving, the self-accused murderer of Mr. Nathan; Jim Hope and James Brady, the future burglars, who was lately hanged in Delaware; Fred Knapp and Edward Lyons, the burglars. The seven brothers, as they were called, all of nearly the same age, used to meet in a saloon on Twenty-fourth street and Ninth avenue. With Charles, James and Tommie Taylor, Noble committed a burglary in Elmira, escaping with several thousand dollars. Some years later, he, with Fred Knapp and Edward Lyons, planned and successfully executed the great robbery in the office of the Royal Insurance Company, in Broadway. As soon as the robbery was known, Captain Irving quietly went after Dan Noble, whom he traced to Canada. There being no extradition treaty, the captain had to remain quietly watching his former companion, who in a few weeks became careless, and kindly returned to the United States. Having been arrested, he was tried in Elmira for the burglary committed there. He was sentenced to five years at Auburn. There he met Jim Hope and James Brady. The three convicts managed to communicate with each other daily, and so hoodwinked the keepers by their apparently exemplary conduct, that in a short time they were masters of the prison. How they escaped is a mystery to everybody but themselves. Dan had friends on board a steamer belonging to the National line, and escaped to Europe. In London he was received with open arms by the thieves, and as he was not known to the English and French police he with Tom Mulligan and a first-class English "gun," who is said to have since reformed, planned the daring robbery so successfully executed in the Palais Royal, Paris. Dan, however, was a liberal, open-handed man, and he soon found himself reduced in the French capital. He was then told that he could successfully break a bank in Vienna, which he did, robbing it of over $1,000,000. With this booty he escaped to Geneva, and remained there until his restless, adventuresome spirit led him to return to Paris, where he was locked up in the prison de la Force, one of the severest disciplined prisons in the world. Dan, however, escaped, and after committing several unimportant robberies returned to Vienna, where he was again imprisoned. He has again escaped.

Good Society.

A lady corsespondent of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, writes from Washington: "The countersigns required for admission into 'good society' are characteristically demanded by the several cities. Boston draws herself up severely, and, while raising her eye-glass to scan the cerebral development of the importunate one, coldly asks, 'What do you know?' New York, vulgarly displaying her silks and diamonds, looks at the costliness which the applicant's appeal denotes, and pertly says, 'What are you worth?' Philadelphia, proudly drawing around her covering of pampered aristocracy, demands, blue book in hand, a nod dips pursed into prunes, persimmons, and prisms, 'Who was your grandfather?' While Washington stops a moment in the gliding German, and while trying to obtain a sly glimpse of your pedal extremities, with glowing cheeks and heaving breast, inquires, 'Can you dance?'"

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Farm, Garden and House.

Old Apple Trees.

The question is frequently asked, what shall be done with the old apple trees? This is more especially the case in New England and those Eastern States which have many trees on the decline. Very many of the orchards of New England are of natural fruit, the quality of many of which sinks in comparison with some of the later and more approved varieties; for this reason comes the query mentioned above. There is undoubtedly a limit to the profitable productiveness of apple trees; they may have a lingering existence with an occasional year of reasonable bearing, but beyond a certain point the vigor of a tree must be rapidly declining, and for that reason, the expediency of an attempt at renewal by means of grafting may well be questioned; for if the elements of disease and decay have once taken hold of the body or roots of a tree, although grafted from never so vigorous and thrifty a shoot, the nourishment must pass through diseased organs, and hence affect to a greater or less degree the inserted stock. Not only that, but it is a more difficult matter to obtain fruit from such old trees that is fair and possesses the desirable qualities required, than from young, vigorous trees.

At this age of fruit-growing, there is considerable diversity of opinion as to the best course to be pursued. A farmer who is a fruit-grower, and markets his fruit in a distant city, remarked that if he was to set out a young orchard to apple trees, he would as soon set out natural fruit, or trees coming from the seed, as the most highly recommended fancy varieties, and gave as reasons, that the trees were always healthy and bore profusely after coming to bearing; that they almost invariably bore every year; that, if there was no sale for fruit, they could be made into cider for vinegar, of which they would make more and better than fancy fruit; that in marketing, especially where furnished to families, they preferred them for cooking purposes, because they were more acid, cooking softer and with better flavor. He offered as an objection to fancy fruit, the uncertainty of its bearing, many varieties being exceeding shy bearers every other year. There is certainly very much force to this objection, and this being so, renders the attempt to improve old orchards by grafting, a movement of doubtful expediency. It is manifest that there is a gradual deterioration of the apple in New England, which can undoubtedly, in a great measure be attributed to this wholesale system of grafting and intergrafting old trees. What is it, that at the present time gives the West such a superiority over the East in her apples—yes, and other fruits—if it is not the fact, that she has been obliged to originate new varieties, which she has done, and which are adapted to her soil and climate?

If grafting must be done, let it be upon the stocks that are young and vigorous, that have been produced from the seed, and if they can be allowed to come to bearing, so as to discover the disposition of the same, before grafting, all the better, as it would be also to take the cions from trees known to be bearing trees, because, unless this is so, upon the principle that like produces like, a barren tree may finally be produced.

It is a good thing to originate and disseminate new varieties of fruit, but while doing so, the profitableness to the raiser should not be entirely lost sight of; and there is no variety that is a very shy bearer, no matter how fine the fruit, that can compete with a variety of profuse bearing, but of less beauty. Orchard culture is of sufficient importance to receive careful consideration.

REMARKS.—The man who would make an orchard with seedling trees in this enlightened age, must be a "slow coach." What assurance has he of a half dozen varieties out of a thousand trees, of any value, or when they will show fruit of any kind? On the other hand, if known sorts of grafted trees be planted, it may be predicted with certainty what the fruit will be and the future of its coming. As for acid, in all reason, has not Duchess, Oldenburgh, Jonathan, Red June, Porter, and many other sorts enough of it to suit the palate of the most fastidious? If we had an old orchard going to decay, we would renovate it with trees from the nursery.—*W. H. Yeomans in the Horticulturist.*

Milk.

D. C. Schofield, of Kane county, Illinois, says:

As the product of the dairy in this county is one of the most universal—scarcely a family in the land but has a cow—and furnishes one of the largest sources of the wealth of the United States, it seems proper that any and all knowledge derived from the experience of those who have had the greatest practical advantage, both by scientific research and untiring, persevering and practical demonstrations, which have resulted in great advantage over the ordinary process, generally practiced by our predecessors from time immemorial, should be freely made known. I say it seems to me to possess an importance scarcely equaled by any other improvements of the day, and should be brought to the notice of all, whether the possessor of one cow or one thousand.

Milk, like blood, is a living fluid, and begins to die as soon as it leaves the seat of vitality, and has just that heat which most rapidly accelerates a change to damage it. Hence it becomes a matter of the first importance that the animal heat should be expelled as soon as possible after being drawn from the cow.

The following method, as now practiced in the main by all our best butter and other manufactories of milk and the best dairymen of the country, will be a matter of great interest to all who may adopt it. Nearly every manufacturing establishment of milk, which receives milk from different dairies, has a set of printed rules, which, though varying slightly in the expression, yet all agreeing in the main principles. I will therefore adopt the substance of what all agree in, and to a considerable extent copy the language verbatim:

1. The milk shall be drawn from the cow in the most cleanly manner and strained through wire-cloth strainers (afterward it is strained by some through fine linen, and others flannel strainers.)

2. The milk must be thoroughly cooled after it is drawn from the cow, in the can in which it is contained, in a tub or vat of cold water deep enough to come up to the height of the milk in the can, containing three or four times as much water as milk to be cooled; the milk to be occasionally stirred until the animal heat is expelled.

3. In Summer, or in the Spring and Fall, the water shall not be over 52 degrees temperature. This may be drawn from a well, or made cool by the introduction of ice, or better still by running water from a spring where the temperature will be uniform, necessary to reduce the temperature of the milk within forty-five minutes to below 58 degrees; and at night's milk, to remain in such bath, until the time of bringing it to the factory, and to be below 55 degrees. The morning's milk not to exceed 60 degrees when brought to the factory.

4. In Winter, or in freezing weather, the water should be kept nearly at freezing point by the addition of ice or snow, that the temperature of the milk be soon reduced below 50 degrees.

5. In Spring and Fall weather a medium course may be pursued, so that night's milk shall be cooled within an hour below 50 degrees.

6. If in running spring water, it should be so arranged that the water flow over the top to carry off the warm water. The can in which the milk is cooled should be placed in the water immediately after milking and remain there until the process of cooling is finished.

7. The night's and morning's milk should be separately cooled before mixing.

8. Cows should not be fed on turnips or any food that will impart an unpleasant odor to the milk.

In the manufacture of butter, the milk when cooled is set in tin cans about twenty inches in height and six inches in diameter, and in a vat of cold water as near 45 degrees as convenient; if higher, the water should be cooled with ice. The cream in this way will separate entirely from the milk in a few hours, but it is usually allowed to stand twenty-four hours for convenience, when with a funnel shaped dipper it is removed and placed where it becomes slightly sour, when it is churned with a dash-churn, being kept in a cool place.

A Mule Producing a Foal to an Arab Horse.

The grand attraction of the Jardin d'Acclimation at the present moment is an Arab horse, a Morocco mule and their foal. This unique production was born in Algeria, in the present year, and caused a great commotion among the Arabs, who have a saying that "when the mule shall produce young, men shall become women and women men," and it was with great difficulty that the offending mother could be preserved from execution before the birth. Fortunately the authorities interfered, and the birth of the foal took place and was officially recorded, and attested by medical men, and by M. Laguerriere, and a military veterinary surgeon, who supplied the facts of the case. The sire is an Arab of Tunis, four and a half years old, and 1.40 metres in height, of remarkable beauty, but with rather long head and ears—a curious coincidence. The dam is a mule of Morocco, nine years old and 1.30 metres in height, a well-made animal who has done good work as a *bat* mule, as the gall marks show. It must be added that she is again two months and a half gone with foal by the same stallion and the three animals live together in the most amicable manner. The young hybrid is a female and more than three months old, 1 10 metres in height, very vigorous, fat, well formed, and except in color and in the form of the croup resembles the sire rather than the dam; and a noticeable peculiarity is, that it has a corn on all four legs, like the horse, whereas the ass and mule rarely have them on the hind legs. It is supposed that no such hybrid has ever been seen before, although it has been asserted that the product of a horse and a mule was once known in the Neapolitan cavalry, and M. A. Sanson, in summing up the evidence existing on the subject says that such a fact of a mule producing a live healthy foal is phenomenal. Of course speculation on the consequences are rife, and it is suggested that should the young hybrid mare prove fruitful, a new species of animal may, by careful crossing, be inaugurated.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

COST OF ABUSING MILK COWS.—Harris Lewis, the eminent dairyman of Herkimer county, New York, said lately in an address to the Board of Agriculture, that he had known a cow which uniformly gave eighteen per cent. of cream to her milk, to decrease her yield to six per cent. in the short space of twelve hours, merely from the excitement caused by bad treatment of a brutal milker. It was not guess work; he used gradual glasses to test the matter. This shows pretty conclusively that it does not pay dairymen to allow their cows to be ill treated. And in ill treatment is to be included anything that will alarm or excite them—fast driving to and from pastures, worrying by dogs, yelling at them and threatening demonstrations by boys, etc. Civility and good nature pay, even when bestowed on cows.

Prices of English Draught Horses.

At a recent sale of a very fine lot of large, powerful cart horses in Liverpool, the following prices were given: $276, 361, 306, 817, 289, 283, 366, 378, 283, 244, 306, 361, 306, 361, 455, 317, 400, 366, 344, 322, 228, 405, 328, 444, 329, 355, 389, 350, 261, 378, 444, 306, 306, 283, 322, 322, 322, 500, 339, 389, 348, 283, 283, 326. The animals were mostly five and six years old, only a few seven. The whole lot was represented to be in fine order and of great size, averaging seventeen hands in height, and probably 2,000 pounds in weight.

Miscellaneous.

FISHING.

GEORGE A. BAKER, JR.

"Harry, where have you been all morning?"
"Down at the pool in the meadow brook."
"Fishing?" "Yes, but the trout were wary—
Couldn't induce them to take a hook."
"Why, look at your coat! You must have fallen.
Your back's all covered with leaves and moss."
How he laughs, good-natured fellow!
Bad luck fishing makes most men cross.

"Nelly, the Wrights have called—where were you?"
"Under the trees by the meadow brook,
Reading, you know, and it was too lovely;
I never saw such a charming book."
The charming book has pleased her greatly,
There's a happy light in her sweet blue eyes,
And she hugs the cat in most fervid fashion,
To staid old Tabby's intense surprise.

Reading? well, yes, but not from a novel.
Fishing? truly, but not with a rod.
The line is idle, the hook neglected;
The water-grasses whisper and nod,
The sportsman bold and the earnest student
Talk softly of—what? Perhaps the weather;
Perhaps—no matter, whatever the subject,
It certainly brings them close together.

It causes their words to be softly spoken,
With many a lingering pause between,
The while the shadows chase the sunbeams
Over the mosses gray and green.
Blushes are needful to its discussion,
And soft sly glances from downcast eyes,
In whose blue depths are lying hidden
Loving gladness and sweet surprise.

Trinity Chapel is gay this evening,
Bright with beauty, and flowers, and light;
A full-dressed fisherman stands at the chancel,
With Nelly beside him all in white,
The ring is on, the vows are spoken,
And smiling friends, good fortune wishing,
Tell him his is the truest prize
Ever brought from a morning's fishing.

Kate Field in Spain.

Kate Field, in her last letter to the New York *Tribune*, thus relates her experience at a railroad eating house:

Poor Castelar! How I pitied him. Atlas bearing the earth on his shoulders had no such burden. The further I went into Spain the further off seemed the republic. "Dinner! dinner! Twenty minutes for dinner!" and off everybody rushed to the dining-room of a restaurant. It was the only occasion on which I saw Spaniards in a hurry. They would have done credit to a Western steamboat, as described by Dickens thirty years ago. I had succeeded so well without eating, that to dine seemed like throwing away money; however, early prejudices still clung to me, and I sat down beside a nice-looking Spanish woman, who began to talk broken English. It really is provoking not to be able to pass for somebody else occasionally, but the Anglo-Saxon is so branded with national characteristics as to render concealment impossible.—This woman ate. I could not. There came soup with oil in it. Then dry fish with oil on it followed by pork and oil. I fell back on a bit of done-to-death beef and under-done potato. At last I made the effort, but had no knife. "Bring me a knife," I said to a waiter laden with dishes. "Certainly," said the waiter, and never returned. "Bring madam a knife," said the Spanish woman, to another waiter. "Certainly," he replied and never returned. Both, probably came back the next day. The one word in everybody's mouth is "*manana*" (to-morrow). It appears to be the appropriate answer to any question, and has so taken possession of the Spanish mind that I don't believe Castelar himself would dare to do to-day what he could put off until to-morrow. It was not feasible to postpone my dinner, so I poised my beef on the points of a fork and gnawed it, to the amazement of some old Spaniards opposite, who picked their teeth in chorus, and glared. Said they, probably, when seated smoking in a hermetically sealed compartment: "What queer people are the English. They never use a knife. They stick their meat on a fork, and bite around it." I didn't like gnawing, and, after deferring to my stomach, by indulging in several mouthfuls, I arose. The somewhat distant Blinker, who was seated at the same table devouring all within his reach, also rose, smiled upon me, and signified in porpoise-like pantomime that he would pay for my dinner. The benevolence and oil beaming on that man's face deserved to be immortalized by John Leech. He was a leech, but not John.

Serrano.

Marshal Francisco Serrano, Duke de la Torre, now President of the Spanish Republic, was born at the close of the last century, and acquired his military experience in the war of independence. Devoted to the interests of the Government, he assisted to bring about the fall of Espartero in 1843. After the restoration of the Queen mother, Serrano coalesced with Narvaez in the attempts of the latter to overthrow Olozaga. Shortly after the marriage of Queen Isabella in 1846, he acquired an influence over the royal mind which occasioned differences between the King Consort and herself, and caused some scandal. The Ministry of the Duke de Sotomayer, which attempted to destroy his influence, was overthrown by him, while that of M. de Salamanca, which he supported, yielded to the storm of public indignation which assailed it. After this Serrano turned liberal, and just before the accession to power of Narvaez accepted the Captaincy General of Grenada. Having been implicated in a rising at Saragossa in 1854 he was exiled, but returned during the revolution of July in that year, and became an active supporter of the O'Donnell and Espartero Cabinet. In the rupture which followed between these two he sided with the former, and having been nominated Captain General of New Castile—an appointment which placed Madrid in his power—in the *coup d'etat* of 1856 he played into O'Donnell's hands, and in that same year he was created Duke de la Torre. In 1857 he was sent as Ambassador to the Court of France, and in 1859 he was appointed Director and Colonel General of Artillery, and in June, 1865, Captain General of Madrid.

After witnessing many governmental, even dynastic, changes, Serrano's life was endangered by a revolution in May, 1873. A correspondent gave at that time an interesting account of Serrano's flight from Spain in the following words:

"After being hunted from house to house by the infuriated and lawless crowd, his own dwelling and those of his relatives and more immediate friends being subjected to a rigorous search over and over again repeated, the Duke sought shelter under the flag which has never yet refused to protect the weak against the strong. He besought a hiding place at the hands of the English Minister, Mr. Layard. Fearful of the possibility of a fresh outbreak or renewal of the violence of the 23d and 24th of April, and, moreover, impelled by the supposed existence of a plot to assassinate him, the friends of the Duke urged his departure from the country. Even the government joined in the urgency. His handsome features and manly form were known to every man, woman and child in the city. It was felt necessary that all the prominent ex-Monarchists who were seeking safety in flight should go disguised. Serrano's disguise was so perfect that even those who helped to get it up failed to recognize him after he had shaved off his handsome mustache, put on a pair of false whiskers (nature never gave him any), and attired himself in an old mourning suit of Mr. Layard's, including a felt hat, or wide-awake. In the preparation of his disguise he protested against the whiskers, and only yielded at the last moment. He, however, threw them off the moment he started from the station. I was there when he departed, and must confess I did not know him, though he brushed past me to enter the carriage prepared for him. His appearance was that of an elderly English country gentleman, returning from a day's shooting. In the same train, but at the other end of it, went Morlos, also in disguise, accompanied by a public functionary who shall be nameless. Serrano was accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Layard.

Galway Pigs.

The pigs of Galway, Ireland, seem to have an uncommon liking for children, according to the following story of a correspondent: "About a fortnight ago, a child in the village of Miner was attacked by one of these brutes, and its hands torn from its body and eaten. The poor creature lingered for a couple of weeks, but, of course, died. It was surely better so. But on Sunday a worse scene happened on the bowling green of Galway itself. A poor woman went out for a few minutes, leaving her infant in the cradle. You may imagine her horror on returning, to find the child outside the house with a pig busily tearing its body—the throat and breast already terribly mangled. It was no easy work driving the pig away, and in a few minutes the infant's sufferings ended in death. Yet it seems that in Galway it is still the habit of many poor people to keep pigs in their houses."

Who Stole the Palmer House Clock?

(From the Chicago Times, January 5.)

One of the boldest thefts of the season was committed at the Palmer House. All who have visited the elegantly furnished and beautifully finished parlors of this palatial hotel will remember the very attractive imported clock and side pieces which stood upon the mantelpiece in the main parlor, and seemed to have been especially destined for the purpose of giving perfection and harmony to this rich apartment. A day or two ago they were in their proper place, attracting universal admiration. The ladies from the country said they were "nice;" the city ladies said they were "just lovely," and the most genteel and unappreciative old bachelor who saw them had to admit that they were "about the thing."

They have vanished. Whither, Mr. Palmer knows not. When Sam Turner was asked where they were, he promptly "gave up" the conundrum. Mr. Meserve did as Sam did, and all the clerks followed the example of their good masters. The question remains unanswered. The marvel is not that a thief or thieves could be found who would steal the ornaments. For, in addition to the city visitors who flock in day after day to "go" the house, hardly an hour passes when one cannot see some St. Louis or Milwaukee man in the house. But what puzzles Mr. Palmer, and makes Sam Turner pull harder and harder at his full grown beard, is to ascertain "how the deuce" the booty was carried off.

The probable solution is that it was a deliberately "put up nual" in which three or four persons participated. One doubtless stood at the door on watch, while the others carefully "saved the pieces," carrying them off leisurely, and having them covered by their carelessly handled overcoats and shawls which they hung across their arms. Once out of the parlor, it required a descent of one story to reach the street and safety. The *Times* reporter tried in vain to get Mr. Turner's theory of the robbery, but Sam said: "I will not be interviewed; I am not good at guessing. I have always heard that Old Procrastination was the thief of time, and if he has not got our clock, then I give it up.

The European Sparrow.

We find it stated in one of our exchanges that a town in Connecticut had appropriated fifty dollars to shelter and feed the municipal sparrows during the present winter.

Having witnessed the enormous depredations on both fruit and grain, committed by these ugly, impudent, voracious little birds in Europe, we have doubted the wisdom of their importation into this country, and we believe the day is not far distant when they will be universally denounced as a nuisance and a pest.

The only merit which can be claimed for the sparrow is that he checks the increase of caterpillars, at one time so annoying on our public promenades. This is all that can be put down to his credit account, and then, per contra, what do we find? He seizes upon every "coigne of vantage" in our handsomest buildings, and disfigures and defiles them with his ragged nest of waste vegetation; he drives from our parks and pleasure grounds our native songsters, all more insectivorous than himself; in the suburbs he becomes a pestilent marauder upon grapes and strawberries and all the summer fruits; when city and suburbs become overcrowded, he invades the fields and becomes the scourge of the farmer.

Edmond About, in his work on Egypt, proves the pigeons in that country to be a burden upon the land to the extent of many thousands of pounds, and the same may and has been said of the voracious sparrow in Europe, where edicts for their destruction have been frequently fulminated, and eventually we will be compelled to do the same. —*Turf, Field and Farm.*

Different Kinds of Eyes.

No branch of science has been more thoroughly mastered than optics. The principle of vision must be essentially the same in all eyes, but they differ remarkably, according the habits of the animal. Birds of lofty flight, as the condor, eagles, vultures, and carrion-seeking prowlers of the feathered race, have telescopic visions, and thus they are enabled to look down and discover their unsuspecting victims. As they approach noiselessly from above, the axis of vision changes—shortening, so that they can see as distinctly within one foot of the ground as when at an elevation of one mile in the air.

This fact explains the balancing of a fish-hawk on its pinions half a mile above a still pond watching for fish. When one is selected, down the savage hunter plunges, the focal axis varying always to the square view of its intended prey. As they ascend, the axis is elongated by a curious muscular arrangement, so as to see far off again.

Snails have their keen eyes at the extremity of flexible horns, which they can protrude or draw in at pleasure. By winding the instrument round the edge of a leaf or stalk, they can see how matters stand on the opposite side. The hammer headed shark has its wicked looking eyes nearly two feet apart. By will effort, they can bend the twin edges of the head, on which the organs are located, so as to examine the two sides of an object the size of a full-grown codfish.

Flies have immovable eyes. They stand out from the head like half an apple, exceedingly prominent. Instead of smooth hemispheres, they have an immense number of facets, resembling old-fashioned glass watch seals, each one directing the light directly to the optic retina. That explains why they cannot be approached in any direction without seeing what is coming.—*Young Folks' Rural.*

Insanity in Spain.

Spanish people do not go crazy! Now and then there is a lunatic in Spain, but, as compared with the United States, or England, or France, the Spanish people manage to keep what wits they have. In London, the latest tables show that one person in every 200 is insane. In Paris, one in every 220 is in a lunatic asylum, or ought to be. In Madrid, only one in 3,350. In the year 1860, there were 2,384 lunatics in Spain, when the population was 15,673,481, and this would show one insane person to 6 566 inhabitants. In 1864 there were 3,818 persons in houses for the insane, but they do not regulate these institutions with the same strictness that prevails in some other countries, and they confine in them many of those criminals who would otherwise be let loose on the community to pursue their career of crime under the cloak of monomania. In Spain they take things easily. The people do not work the brain unduly in matters of religion or trade. Religion never made any one crazy; on the contrary, it has soothed the madness and healed the malady of many a crazed brain and distracted soul. But the wild and unenlightened excitement, begotten of blind fanaticism and erroneous teaching has often driven men and women mad, as statistics of American insanity fearfully show. And in Spain there is not energy enough, not life enough, to make speculation dangerous in philosophy, morals, or even in money. And the great safety-valve, or rather the great preserver of the people's intellects, is found in the fact that they are never to a hurry about anything. The old Romans had a good motto, "Festinalente" (haste slowly); but the Spaniards never hasten at all. They despise punctuality. An hour after the time when a positive appointment had been made with me, a man in Seville said, when I told him I had been waiting, "Why, the Queen never comes till an hour after the time announced for her arrival." And this utter indifference to the value of time, which is money all the world over, angels, or is begotten, for it is hard to say whether it be the cause or the effect, of that perfect ease, content with one's condition, idle carelessness, that dismisses all anxiety for the future. Such people do not go crazy.—[Prime's Alhambra and Kremlin.

The Rattles of the Rattlesnake.

The formation of rattles upon the tail of a rattlesnake is a curious phenomenon. The notion that one is developed each year is incorrect. Young ones have been known to have six or more; sometimes two or three appear in a single year. The number seldom exceeds fifteen. The skin of one that was six feet long, now in the Museum of the Long Island Historical Society of Brooklyn, has fourteen rattles. De Kay cited, in 1842, the Clarion newspaper, published at Boston, New York, which stated that two men killed, in three days, in the town of Bolton, at Lake George, 1,104 rattlesnakes, some of which carried fifteen to twenty rattles. They were killed for their oil. The same author states, on the authority of the Columbian *Magazine* for November, 1789, that a rattlesnake was killed, having forty-four rattles, which seems an incredible number. The use of the rattles is a subject of discussion. They are evidently well developed—not rudimental merely—and the conclusion irresistible is that they are of service to the creature. We can not suppose that organs which are constant in a class of animals could have originated, if entirely useless and unserviceable to it. Prof. Aughey suggests that the whirring rattle is a call-note by the animal to its mate. That it was thus used on one occasion he was an eye-witness. Again, it may be used to terrify its enemies; or to paralyze its victims with fright, or to call assistance in danger. He says: "I once witnessed an attack by seven hogs on a rattlesnake. Immediately the snake rattled and three others appeared; but the hogs were victorious."—*Popular Science Monthly.*

GOSSIP.

A court-house—Her father's.

Small-pox prevails in various parts of Georgia.

Most of the Swiss women are good marksmen.

Canadians who say "By Jove" are fined $10 for profane swearing.

A country without fair women would simply be stag-nation.

The Boston *Post* has discovered that Cushing is in harmony with the age. He is 74.

Questionable—When a man marries a poetess, does he take her for better or for verse?

The straighten-up-Mary-Jane-and-show-your-breast-pin attitude has superseded the Grecian bend in Peoria.

A chiropodist announces on his cards that he has "removed corns from several of the crowned heads of Europe."

The Wesleyan University at Middletown, Conn., has four female "sophs" and one "fresh."

All the children in Jeddo, Japan, are henceforth to be labelled with the names and addresses of their parents.

An ungrateful man in Hartford complained that his hand ached with cutting coupons from bonds.

Three brothers in Patten, Me., have married three sisters, whose brothers have married their brother's-in-law's sisters.

The phenomenon of Missouri just now is an old gentleman who has lived forty-six years in Benton county without tasting a drop of whiskey.

A man out West who has married and buried three sisters, now comes up smiling at the altar, having begun on a new family.

A business-like resident of Wilkesbarre, Pa., has presented to the town authorities a bill of $224 for taking care of his own son in an attack of the small-pox.

A beautiful illustration of hard times is the fact that a feature of a juvenile party in New York was a Christmas-tree trimmed with five dollar bills.

Jacob Simonton, up in Iowa, is a believer in the maxim that "practice makes perfect." His twenty-second babe took the first premium at the Page county fair.

A New Hampshire farmer's wife fell into a well, and it was four days before he missed her and made search. He said he thought the house unusually quiet, but he didn't know what made it so.

A lovable, motherly sort of a woman in New Orleans declares that when she grows to be an old woman it will be her ambition and delight to be lame and use crutches, so that she can sit on her doorstep and beat to death every child that passes her way.

The Princeton (Ill.) *Clarion* blows a blast about a dry goods merchant of that town, who, in a fit of somnambulism, arose from his couch, neatly cut the bedquilt in two with his pocket scissors, and then asked his terrified wife if he could not show her something else.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

The mother of Governor Booth presides at his receptions.

Paris ladies are wearing a gray felt hat, turned up on one side, and with a pink rose and long drooping feather as ornaments.

German women boast the best heads of hair of any nation on the globe, but the Italian women have more brilliant complexions, and are regarded as the prettiest on the European continent.

A free and enlightened voter in Burlington, Ia., in scratching the name of Mrs. Hager, wrote upon the ballot, "Dosnt want no wummun in Mine."

A woman in Louisville, Tenn., recently sneezed a false tooth out while feeding her chickens, and one of them picked it up, whereupon the woman caught the chicken, cut open the crop, and, having taken out the tooth, sewed it up again. And that chicken is as proud as a Credit Mobilierist.

Perhaps this is what Mark Twain tried to say at a dinner in London the other day and couldn't:

Oh, woman, woman, thou should'st have few sins
Of thine own to answer for! Thou art the author
Of such a book of follies in a man
That it would need the tears of all the angels
To blot the record out!

The people of Colfax township, Mo., recently held a meeting and resolved that they cannot pay their taxes, and that should the property be put up at auction for taxes, "if any outsiders come to the sale we will give them a warm reception."

An obituary notice in a Western paper contained the touching intelligence that the deceased "had accomplished a little money and ten children."

SPECIAL NOTICES

Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam.

A remedy that has been in extensive use for more than a quarter of a century, and has accomplished astonishing cures in cases where the efforts of skillful physicians and the pretended efficacy of other remedies failed deserves the patronage of the public. Such a medicine is Dr. Wm. Hall's Balsam for the Lungs. Those suffering from lung diseases, however hopeless their condition may appear, should not despair until they have given this valuable remedy a fair trial.

Scovill's Blood and Liver Syrup.

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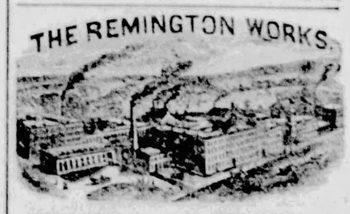

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News of the Week.

WASHINGTON.

The House Committee on Elections will make their report on the West Virginia contested election cases, none of which will be signed by a majority of the members Five members sustain the legality of the October elections, two that of August, and three hold that neither election was valid. The remaining three members of the Committee entertain views differing from the others.

The convention of Mexican war veterans was called to order on the 15th, in Willard's Hall by Gen. W. Denver, who said that its objects were to ask Congress for pensions for survivors of the Mexican war, to adopt means for the organization of a national brotherhood of Mexican veterans for representation at the Centennial Exposition, and to prevail upon our Congress to pass a law to admit indigent Mexican soldiers to the Soldier's Home near this city. A temporary organization was effected by the selection of Gen. Denver as chairman, and A. M. Kennedy as Secretary. Committees were appointed on credentials and permanent organization. Governor Denver was elected President.

The Convention of American War Veterans, January 16th resolved to visit their illustrious comrade and friend, President Grant, at the Executive Mansion, and inform him of their measures, and invite his co-operation. A Committee was appointed to prepare a memorial to Congress and the War Department will ask for a copy of the muster rolls of soldiers of the Mexican war. At the close of the morning session the veterans marched to the Metropolitan Methodist Church, where Gen. Negley, member of Congress from Pa., delivered an address, and Gen. Albert Pike recited a poem. The Marine and Fort McHenry Bands furnished music.

The Mexican veterans on the 17th adopted a memorial to Congress, asking pensions for those engaged in the Mexican war, and their surviving widows and children, and afterwards visited the Executive Mansion, where ex-Governor Herbert, of Louisiana, made a short address to the President, saying that the members of the convention were glad to recognize in him an old companion in arms in the glorious and victorious battles in Mexico. The President bowed his thanks in reply, and then there was a general hand shaking and pleasant conversation. Gen. Sherman and many ladies were present.

The Patent Rights Convention met on the 15th. Two hundred delegates were present, representing 18 States. The following officers were elected: President, J. M. Thatcher, Washington; Vice Presidents, N. R. Graham, Chicago; Chief Engineer, W. W. Wood, U. S Navy; H. E. Towle, New York, and Miles Pratt, St. Louis.

Vice President Wilson says his health is much improved. He will not resume his place in the Senate at present, but will next week return to Massachusetts, he having abandoned his trip to Florida.

The National Woman's Suffrage Association commenced its session on the 15th, Susan B. Anthony presiding. Letters were read from Gerrit Smith and Ben. Butler, expressive of their sympathy with the cause. Mrs. James Stanton Blake and Mrs. Gage addressed the Convention. A petition to Congress is being proposed, asking for equal rights, and praying that a law be passed exempting women from taxation for national purposes, so long as they are unrepresented in the National Council.

Various names continue to be mentioned in connection with the Chief Justiceship. From certain indications the nomination may come from New York in the person of Judge Woodruff; at least, intimations to that effect have been made in Congressional quarters. Several days may elapse before the nomination is sent to the Senate. At a late hour on Thursday the opinion prevailed among a large number of Congressmen that Senator Conkling might accept the Chief Justiceship. He has left Washington for New York.

The commission of Cushing as Minister to Spain has not yet been received by the President from the State Department, for his signature.

The House Military Committee on the 16th considered, without coming to any conclusion, whether they should continue the investigation, or request the President to order a Board of Inquiry, in the case of Gen. Howard.

The Senate Committee on Public Lands, on the 16th had under consideration Senator Cameron's resolution directing them to inquire into the expediency of granting the request of the Mennonites of Russia and Prussia to purchase from the Government a compact body of land, sufficiently large to afford homes for them in this country. They number between 40,000 and 50,000 souls. The Committee discussed the matter without coming to any conclusion.

The Senate Committee on Public Buildings and grounds have decided that it will be inexpedient to consider any new propositions for erecting Government buildings this year, and that work should be confined to those now in progress which are strictly indispensable.

On the 16th in the Criminal Court the long talked of case of John W. Wright, indicted for forgery in connection with the claims of the Cherokee Indians, for back pay and bounty, was taken up. The defence entered a motion to quash the indictment, but Judge Carter overruled the motion, deciding that the indictment was good. Six of the cases were set down for Monday.

THE BANK.

Ex-Senator Graham, the defaulting President of the Wallkill National Bank, has been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary.

The engineers, train and track hands of the New Jersey Southern Railroad, quit work January 18th. The locomotives in the shops have been partly disconnected, and taken out. The track has been torn up in different places, preventing trains from running.

A letter of Governor Andrew, of Massachusetts, dated April 27, 1861, to Caleb Cushing, declining the proffered services of that gentleman, is made public. Gov. Andrew says to Mr. Cushing: "Your relation to public affairs; your frequently avowed opinion, ideas and sentiments; your intimacy of social, political and sympathetic intercourse with leading secessionists of the rebel States, maintained for years, and never, unless at this moment, discontinued, forbid my finding any place for you in the councils of the camp."

A Boston telegram says: The Presidents of the Central Vermont and Canada Railroads have arranged their financial difficulties. The terms are the sale of the Vermont & Canada Road to the Central Vermont for three million dollars, payable in twenty years, secured by first mortgage in trust at six per cent.

Captain Packard, of the American bark Mary M. Bird, reports a collision with an unknown ship, which occurred on his late voyage from Marseilles to New York, November 23, 36° 24 min latitude north; 5° 18 min longitude, at 5 a. m. He hove to and remained in the vicinity of the collision until daybreak, but saw nothing of the ship, and supposes she went down with all on board.

Dispatches state that the Spanish iron-clad Arapiles is said to have received considerable injury by striking on the rocks in East river on the way to her place of anchorage off the battery, and to be making nearly six inches of water every twenty-four hours. Her commander proposes to have the bottom examined by divers to day, and unless absolutely impossible, will put to sea and trust to pumps rather than try further repairs at this port.

THE WEST.

A dispatch of Jan. 15th says: In the message of Hon. Wm. R. Taylor, Reform Governor of Wis., delivered at Madison, Wis., he reverts to the great financial crisis, which, owing to the prudence and integrity of the people and the natural resources of the State, was, in a measure, averted, and confidence is almost entirely restored. The financial condition is as follows: Total receipts into the Treasury from all sources, $177,455,855; disbursements, $179,802 314; excess of the disbursements over the receipts during the year, $2,346,459; leaving in the Treasury, to the credit of all funds, $21,-564,458. Total receipts of the General Fund, $109 587,229, disbursements, $119,186,601, an excess of $9,609,382 above the receipts.

Deducting from the excess of expenditures the balance in the general fund at the commencement of the year, makes the deficiency $7,692,380, which is the large increase of the public debt for which he finds no authority. He censures the past practice of misappropriating funds set apart for charitable and other purposes, and further loan of the trust fund to the State must not be entertained, and recommends such legislation as shall rapidly repair the present deficiency, and prevent in the future the continuation of these practices which necessitate this legislation. The legal debt of the State at the close of the fiscal year was $2 252 057.

At a meeting of the bondholders of the Atlantic, Mississippi & Ohio R. R. Jan. 16th, it was decided to reject the proposition recently made by the company asking the holders of coupons due Jan. 1, 1874, to fund such coupons into the company's notes payable on or before Jan. 1, 1879, with interest at 8 per cent., payable semi-annually. A committee was appointed to confer with the bondholders elsewhere.

The Attorney-General received a dispatch from the United States Marshal at Austin, Texas, dated Jan. 16th, saying: "The newly elected Governor (Coke) was inaugurated last night. Armed men are guarding the approach to the offices and Capitol, and other armed men have possession of the legislative halls. A conflict seems inevitable. A message from you may save us from disaster." The Attorney General replied that he could only appeal to the parties to peaceably adjust their difficulties, if possible. "Cannot some one negotiate a settlement? I have no power to interfere with force, nor have you any duty to perform in respect to the matter, except to use your moral influence."

The Rev. Samuel Fisher, of College Hill, Cincinnati, went out to the stable Saturday morning, and found his horse down and fastened. He went, as is supposed, to a neighbor for help, and fell dead on the way, and was found by his daughter. He succeeded Dr. Beecher as Pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, and was also several years President of Hamilton College, New York,

THE SOUTH.

At Atlanta, January 14th, the Legislature met in session. The Governor in his message takes a cheerful view of the public affairs. The State debt is $8,000,000, and it is estimated that the value of taxable property is $250,000,000. The Senate approved the final action of Congress on the salary question.

The Democrats held conventions at Jefferson City, Missouri, January 12th, at which resolutions were adopted, declaring that as the Democratic party will be held responsible for the character of the legislation during the session; we pledge ourselves to support only such measures as are most important for the public good, and adjourn at the earliest day possible.

At a meeting of the Howard Association in Memphis, on the 13th, the following resolution was adopted:

"WHEREAS, It comes to us that there is great destitution and consequent suffering among the people of certain sections, and especially in the large cities of the various States that contributed so generously to the relief of our sick and destitute during the late yellow fever pestilence. It is the sense of this Association that $30,000 of the $43,000 now in our hands be placed to the credit of the several States in proportion to the amounts contributed to us by them, same to be drawn as they may need, and call for it, the remainder to be kept for our own sick and suffering."

At Annapolis, Jan. 16th, the Democratic members of the Maryland Legislature in caucus nominated Wm. Pinckney White, for United States Senator.

FOREIGN.

Great Brittan.

At London, Jan. 14th, dispatches from Cape Coast Castle report Gen. Wolsey and staff, with 200 seamen, started for River Park Dec. 27, and that his scouts had gone several miles beyond without encountering the enemy.

In the Tichborne case Mr. Keneally concluded his closing speech for the defense. He demanded a verdict for the claimant, declaring that the preponderance of unshaken evidence in his favor was overwhelming. He mentioned that the charges against Lady Radcliffe had been proved to be true.

As Mr. Hawkins, counsel for the prosecution, was leaving the Court, he was mobbed by the friends of the Tichborne claimant. The police interferred to save him from their violence, and four persons were arrested.

A serious riot occurred at the election in Limerick. Two rival candidates of the "National" party are running, and a fight took place between their partizans. Knives and pistols were freely used, and several were murdered. The police came upon the ground in force, and put down the riot, after arresting a number of participants.

France.

In the Assembly a general debate on the bill providing for the nomination of Mayors by the Government was concluded, and the Chamber resolved, by a vote of 378 to 316 nays, to proceed to a discussion of the clauses of the bill.

During a discussion in the Assembly on the 17th of the bill providing for the appointment of Mayors by the Government, the Left proposed an amendment requiring that the Mayors shall be chosen from the municipal councils; lost by 5 votes. The same amendment, afterwards offered by the Left Center, was again rejected by a majority of 14.

At Paris, Jan. 19th the Ultramontane Journal "L'Univers," has suspended. Persons passing between France and Italy no longer need pass ports.

Spain.

The *Official Gazette* contains the following intelligence from Cartagena: On Sunday, Jan. 11th, the Commission of the Red Cross Society and three Cartagenian officers arrived at Gen. Dominiquez's headquarters. They brought a letter from the President of the Insurgent Junta, asking for the suspension of hostilities and the appointment of a joint commission of the Government and Cartagenian officers to consider the conditions of a surrender. General Dominiquez rejected the proposals, and gave the insurgents till noon to-day to make an unconditional surrender. He, however, promised pardon to all who before the expiration of that time gave themselves up with their arms, except the members of the Junta; the ordinary criminals are to be dealt with by the tribunals; liberated convicts, who will be compelled to serve out the terms of their sentences; and deserters from the armies of Spain, whose cases are to be disposed of by the Minister of War. With this reply the Commissioners returned to the city. The Government is confident that a surrender will be effected to-day. Before these negotiations were opened the insurgent leader, Galvez, with 200 men, made an unsuccessful attempt to recover Atalava Castle.

The Government forces, on occupying Cartagena, found the fortifications and buildings badly damaged by the bombardment.

One of the insurgent steamers which attempted to escape has been captured, with a large number of refugees on board. The Mendez Nunez, with another party of insurgents on board, succeeded in reaching a port of France, into which she was pursued by a French man-of-war.

At a meeting of the Deputies constituting a majority in the late Cortes, a vote of confidence in Senor Castelar was adopted, and he was requested to prepare a manifesto to the nation.

The iron-clad Numancia has been delivered to a Spanish frigate.

The Insurgent Chiefs, Contreras, Ferrez and Galvez have been sent to the capitol of Algeria, and other Cartagenian refugees have been incarcerated in the fort and barracks of Oran and Mers el Kelcir.

The authority of the Government is fully restored in Barcelona.

A dispatch of Jan. 13, says: Carthagena surrendered and is now occupied by government troops under Gen. Dominiquez. Upon the capitulation of the city the Intransigente Junta and the liberated convicts went on board the frigate Numancia, which was attended by the Government squadron, and at the time the last dispatch was forwarded, a naval engagement was in progress.

A London Times correspondent at Cartagena writes that the Government troops on entering the city shot eight insurgents who were trying to escape. The occupation of the town was otherwise bloodless. Five hundred refugees, among them Bascia, a prominent leader, were taken prisoner on board the captured steamer Saez. The commander of Fort Galeras, and Gutierrez, President of the insurgent Junta were on board the Numancia. A Spanish frigate has arrived at Mersel Keleir, and demanded the surrender of the Numancia. The French authorities refused to deliver her until they had orders from Paris. The vessel is comparatively uninjured. The condition of the forts around Cartagena confirms the suspicion of treachery, and provisions were found to be fairly plentiful in the town.

Gen. Dominiquez has been appointed to the command of the central army operating against the Carlists.

A railway viaduct at Toquella fell on the 17th, and 33 workmen were killed.

The publication of three more newspapers in Madrid has been suspended by the Government.

The iron clad Numancia has sailed from Mers El Kebier for Carthagena, convoyed by the Victoria and Carmen.

Japan.

Hanabusa Yashmato, one of the Under Secretaries of the foreign office, and recently envoy to Corea, has been commissioned to represent Japan at St. Petersburg, and will start immediately for his post. He is especially entrusted with the Saghalen question. The question in regard to the Maria Suez case will not come up for discussion until a year hence, when other agents will be despatched in the interest of Japan. Hanabusa's rank is First Secretary of Legation.

The Japanese Foreign office has received a dispatch from China in relation to Garcia, the Peruvian Emperor.—The Chinese say he will be received with the courtesies and attention due a minister, but they will make no treaty with Peru until that nation shall have released and sent back every Coolie now held there, and pledged itself to discontinue importations in the future. Considerable discontent is expressed in Japanese official circles over the fact that Garcia was allowed a favorable treaty by the late head of the foreign office, Sayezima.

Charles Walcott Brooks returns to San Francisco by the steamship China, to resume his functions as counsel for Japan. P. M. Wilson, Esq, formerly British Charge d'Affairs, and more recently First Secretary of the Legation at Yeddo, returns to England next week, having been transferred to Copenhagen. He carries with him the most comprehensive treatise upon education in Japan that has yet been prepared, to be presently published by his Government.

Considerable speculation has arisen among foreigners over the rumors of a serious disagreement between the ministers of various nations and the Japanese Government. For once these reports are not wholly without foundation. The exact circumstances are as follows: Soon after the return of the embassy, the question of a treaty revision being brought up, an effort was made to secure a promise that the whole empire should be thrown open. This was met by a proposal that the foreign governments should surrender the privilege of ex-territorial jurisdiction. It was declared that this would not be conceded under any circumstances, whereupon the Japanese Government not only declined to entertain the project of opening the country, but begun gradually to withdraw certain liberties which they voluntarily permitted some time ago. It is supposed that this was done to show that the unyielding temper of the foreign representatives could easily be combatted by a strict adherence on the part of the Japanese to the letter of the territorial regulation. Although their right to restrain foreigners within the prescribed limits cannot be disputed, their action is loudly complained of as a sort of retaliatory measure. The ex-territorial jurisdiction is now the only important subject of debate. The foreign Ministers are all instructed to enforce its continuance here, notwithstanding the fact that the British Government, after consideration, has unqualifiedly condemned the principle in the case of China.

Germany.

The returns from all parts of the Empire show definitely that 100 Ultramontanes and 230 Ministerial Liberals have been elected to the Reichstag.

The North German Gazette says of the policy of France: "It is made subservient to the temporal aims of the Papacy. The peace of Europe will be compromised."

There was an exciting scene in the Sandtag on the 16th. Herr Mallinickrodt, an Ultramontane deputy, quoted a passage from a recent work of General LaMarmora, alleging that Bismarck in 1866 discussed the session to France of a portion of the Rhenish territory. Prince Bismarck arose and pronounced the statement an audacious and malicious falsehood.

Mexico.

The right of trial by jury has been established in the State of Tamulipas, in criminal cases. Jury trials have heretofore been unknown to the laws of Mexico.

Cuba.

Spanish accounts state that Colonel Esporda, with 650 men, had an engagement with the Insurgents near Malones. The fighting lasted six or seven hours, and at the close Colonel Esporda retreated before the superior numbers of the enemy. His loss was four officers and sixteen privates killed, and fourteen officers and fifty privates wounded. The Insurgent loss could not be ascertained.

Russia.

From foreign files received to-day, the following is clipped:

"On Sunday, the 4th inst., the Duke of Edinburg arrived at St. Petersburg in good health and capital spirits. About an hour previous the Imperial carriage and the sledges arrived at the Railroad station to receive him, and presently a guard of honor with a band at its head and the Russian eagle displayed, was drawn up on the platform. Soon afterward the Grand Duke Alexis appeared, and, saluting the guard with a hearty "Good morning, soldiers," was received with a stentorian response. Next came the Grand Duke Nicolas, who gave and received the same greeting, and it now only remained for the Emperor to arrive, which he did a few minutes after 2, accompanied by a brilliant staff, among whom was the British Ambassador. As soon as the train had entered the station, the Duke of Edinburg jumped out and advanced to the Emperor, who gave him a most affectionate welcome, as did also the Grand Duke, the band meanwhile playing "God Save the Queen." The chief thoroughfares were gaily decorated with flags. When the Duke arrived at the Winter Palace, he was received by the Empress and Princess Marie, together with the Imperial household."

Italy.

A Rome dispatch says: The Pope will hold another consistory early next month, when he will appoint several additional Cardinals and seventeen foreign Bishops.

The Consul General of Italy says a royal decree has been published forbidding the employment of Italian children in vagrant professions, and requiring the holders of such children in this country to report to the Consular agent their own names, as well as the names of the children, and to return the latter to Italy at the holder's expense before May 15. The extradition will be sought of those who disobey the order. The aid of the municipal authorities here is sought to enforce the provisions of the law.

National Board of Trade.

The National Board of Trade, in pursuance of a resolution adopted at the last annual session at Chicago, met at Rialto Hall, Baltimore, on the 13th, Frederick Fraley, of Philadelphia, in the chair. About 40 delegates were present, representing Baltimore, Boston, New York, Chicago, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Richmond and other cities. The official programme of recommendations and resolutions to be considered at the meeting were read.

Mr. Taylor, of Cincinnati, moved that subjects one, two, three and four of the official programme, embracing the reform of the currency, restoration of specie payments, national banking and national banking law, be referred to a committee of nine, to be appointed by the President, the latter to be chairman of said committee, and to report Thursday morning. The motion was adopted, and the following committee appointed: Enoch Pratt, of Baltimore; B. F. Nourse, Boston; A. M. Wright, Chicago; A. Lester Taylor, Cincinnati; W. E. Smith, Milwaukee; J. A. Stevens, New York; George Baine, St. Louis; H. Windsor, Philadelphia; W. P. S. Marsh, Buffalo.

Subjects five, six, seven, eight and nine, relating to transportation, Railroad transportation, transportation of grain in bulk, the establishment of a bureau of Internal Improvement, the constructing of the revenue law, capital tax on emigrants, were severally called up and postponed.

Subject 11, "Lake Coasting Trade," from the Chamber of Commerce at Milwaukee, was next taken up, and a resolution that the National Board of Trade memorialize Congress to amend the laws regulating the coasting trade of the Lakes as to require the masters of vessels in all cases to report their arrival at and departure from any ports in the United States where there are Custom Houses, and file with the proper officers manifestoes of cargoes taken on board or discharged at such ports, was adopted.

Subject 12, Relative to the State interference in municipal affairs, from the Philadelphia Board of Trade, was lost by a vote of 15 to 21.

Subject 13, From the Board of Trade of Chicago, petitioning the Legislatures of the several States for a law requiring all persons carrying on any business under a firm name to register with the County Clerk or some other designated officer, the firm's name and each individual member thereof, was adopted.

Subject 14, From the Philadelphia Board of Trade, relative to uniformity in manufacturing laws and the limitation of stockholders, was adopted, with an amendment.

Subjects in reference to the consideration of the Mississippi River levees, and of the reorganization of the Indian Territory, were postponed.

The Board unanimously adopted a resolution, endorsing the memorial of the New York Chamber of Commerce to Congress, praying for an International Commission of Maritime Powers to devise laws for the additional safety to ocean travel.

After debate the first resolution of the Boston Board of Trade, relative to a change in existing revenue laws, was adopted, and the remaining ones referred to a Committee to report on the 15th. The resolution adopted is as follows: "That in the judgment of the Board the laws under which the custom duties are collected are difficult to understand, and in connection with the demoralizing system of rewarding informers with moieties, and with the arbitrary powers vested in the officers who are themselves informers, to seize the books and papers, they commonly serve as traps for honest importers, and an encouragement to corruption, oppression and bribery."

A resolution, that in view of the proposed Centennial Celebration at Philadelphia, that city be the proper place for holding the session of the Board during the present and coming years was referred to the Executive Committee.

Two subjects relative to increasing and cheapening transportation, were recommitted.

President Fraley then read the following report of the Committee on National Finances:

"*Resolved*, 1st, That the National Board respectfully recommends to Congress that there shall be no further issues of irredeemable paper money whatsoever.

"2d. That in the opinion of this Board, it is the first duty of the Government to provide for the redemption and cancellation of so much of the legal tender issue as has been taken from the so-called $44,000,000 reserve.

"3d. That it is the imperative duty of the Government to restrict its expenditures, in every department of the public service, to the lowest possible point, and that strict economy be instituted in all appropriations.

"4th. That Congress be requested to so amend the National Banking law that the banks be compelled to hold the coin they receive for interest on their bonds, hypothecated as security for their circulation, as a part of their reserve, until their reserve in coin shall be equal at least to 30 per cent. of their circulation."

The balance of the session was occupied in a debate on the report.

At the session of the next day (Tuesday) the Secretary read a communication from the American Cheap Transportation Association, now in session in Washington, which invited the National Board to be present during its session.—The Board tendered a vote of thanks, but on account of the press of business, could not accept the invitation.

The report of the Committee on National Finances was then taken up. Jno. H Boynton, of New York, moved as a substitute for the report of the Committee the views and suggestions of the Committee appointed by the Board of Managers of the New York Produce Exchange to consider the subject of the National finances. The debate on the report continued until 1 o'clock, when the report of the New York Produce Exchange, offered by Mr. Boynton as a substitute for the report of the Committee on National Finances, was voted on and rejected.

Mr. Stevens of New York, withdrew his amendment offered on the 14th.

The amendments offered by Messrs. Nazro, of Boston,; Bonner, of St. Louis; Grubb, of Philadelphia; and Dore, of Chicago, were severally rejected.

The original report of the Committee on National Finances was then taken up, and the four resolutions already given, voted *seriatim*, and all adopted, the first by a vote of 44 to 9, the second by a vote of 46 to 10, the third unanimously, and the fourth by 36 to 18.

Mr. Grovenor, of St. Louis, said he was instructed to make a report from the Committee on Transportation. The report was ordered printed, and made a special order for Saturday.

Mr. Grubb, of Philadelphia, from the Special Committee to which the proposed amendment to the Revenue laws was referred, handed in a report.

The National Board of Trade re-assembled in Baltimore on the 16th.

It was announced that the Dominion Board of Trade had postponed its annual meeting until February 24th. Mr. McLaren, of Milwaukee, was appointed Chairman of the delegation to be selected hereafter to attend that meeting.

A resolution was adopted instructing the Executive Council to lay the subject of the existence of rocks and shoals at the mouth of the Detroit River before the National Government, and ask its immediate attention to the immediate removal of these obstructions.

The rules were suspended and the resolution adopted recognizing the great commercial and national importance of the Darien Canal, and commending the enterprise to the favorable consideration of the people of the United States.

The subject of the reorganization of Indian Territory was referred to a committee of five, with leave to report at pleasure.

The first four resolutions of the report of the Committee on Transportation were adopted, as follows:

First. Railway Companies engaged in the business of transporting grain in bulk should in all cases deliver the same quantity of grain as they received; and that while it is believed that the common law governing all carriers would, if appealed to, enforce this principle, it is proper and desirable that the different State Legislatures should pass laws compelling its observance, thereby facilitating its enforcement by any individual aggrieved.

Second. That it is inexpedient for Congress at the present time to assume any pecuniary obligations, or to make any appropriations, in aid of artificial means of transportation.

Third. That while Railway Companies, like all other corporations, are under the control of and held responsible to the power which gave them existence, and may properly be checked in the exercise of any unjust or arbitrary powers; nevertheless, experience has shown that it is expedient to seek by legislative enactments to fix the rates of transportation.

Fourth. That the practical work of transportation being delegated by so many Railway Companies to special freight lines frequently leads to great abuses, and to an unnatural and unnecessary addition to the cost of transportation, and that Railroads should either assume the direct control and responsibility of their own business, or leave it open to the competition of all freight lines that may undertake it.

The fifth resolution, in reference to the chartering by the General Government of any Railway between the West and seaboard, under proper restrictions, whenever private capital may undertake its construction, was next discussed.

Mr. Van Horn, of Kansas City, moved its indefinite postponement.

After a long discussion, Van Horn's motion was carried.

The following, the sixth and last resolution, was then adopted without debate:

Resolved, That the Executive Council be instructed to communicate by memorial to the Legislatures of the several States the recommendations respecting State legislation embraced in the foregoing resolutions, and moreover, to urge the several constituent boodies in the different cities to use their influence to secure the adoption and enforcement of the principles herein enunciated.

Mr. Grubb, of Philadelphia, submitted a report of the Special Committee on Revenue Laws, which was adopted. It embodied: First, the resolution of the Boston Board of Trade bearing on this subject, and adopted by the National Board of Trade on Monday last, and in addition the following:

Resolved, That these evils are so great, and are exerting so destructive an influence on the morals of trade, that we respectfully ask Congress, in the name of the commerce of the country, to consider what modifications of the laws may be safely made.

Resolved, That the Executive Council present these resolutions to Congress in the name of the National Board of Trade, and to take such other means as may secure reformatory legislation.

The rules were suspended and the preamble and resolutions in reference to bills of lading were read. They claimed that up to the present time there has been no system of issuing bills of lading, and that there was no security for holders of bills, and that the National Board of Trade should memorialize Congress and State Legislatures to adopt such measures as will afford the necessary relief.

On motion of Mr. Bonner, of St. Louis, the report of the special committee, to whom was referred the subject of the reorganization of the Indian Territory, was read, and after some debate the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That Congress be, and hereby is, respectfully memorialized to establish without delay, a Territorial Government over the country known as Indian Territory, bringing the people thereof under the laws and jurisdiction of the United States on such equitable basis as will secure 1st. A homestead to the head of each Indian family, title to which cannot be alienated for a designated term of years; 2d. The sale of the remaining lands, on such terms as will conduce to the rapid settlement and development of the territory, the proceeds of said sales to be held or invested by the Government as a fund, which fund shall be sacredly held as a trust for the benefit of the Indians, the interest thereof to be expended in such a manner and at such a time as the wisdom of Congress may provide, for the education and social improvement of the Indians.

Mr. John Gano, of Cincinnati, presented three resolutions, all of which were adopted: First, To amend the National Banking laws, so as to take from the Controller of the Currency all discretionary power; Second, That Congress be requested at the earliest possible moment to provide for retiring and destroying the fractional currency, and substituting silver coin therefor; Third, That as the fractional currency is largely in excess of the needs of the country, the Secretary of the Treasury be instructed to redeem not less than $10,-000,000 thereof, beginning with the $50,000,000 issue, and pay out therefor $1 notes.

Mr. Wright, of Chicago, moved that a meeting of the National Board of Trade shall be held at such a time and place as shall be decided by the Executive Counsel. Adopted.

Mr. Stevens, of New York, offered a resolution that the National Board of Trade urge upon Congress to establish an International Commission, to which the Governments of all Central and South American States shall be invited to send delegates, to consider by what means commercial intercourse between them and the United States may be best fostered and increased, and their markets opened to American products, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Nazro, of Boston, moved that the National Board of Trade recommend to State Legislatures the incorporation of savings banks, whose duty it shall be to receive from any person any sum from $1 to $1,000, all money so received to be invested in any registered public stock created by virtue of any law of the United States, and in no other way.—Referred to the Executive Council.

Mr. Hoffman, of Philadelphia, offered the following:

"WHEREAS, It appears from the proceedings in Congress, that there exists a wide difference of opinion in regard to the proper distribution of the land awarded to the claimants for losses known as the Alabama Claims,

"*Resolved*, That Underwriters should be indemnified for losses in the same manner, and on the same terms as individuals, and as the claims of underwriters are included in the award made at Geneva, they should receive their just proportion."

It was moved that the foregoing be referred to the Executive Council with instructions to memorialize Congress on the subject, if they saw proper. Adopted.

The subject No. 10.—Capitulation taxation—next came up for discussion, and was continued on the programme until the next session.

Mr. Able, of St. Louis, moved that all pending questions be continued on the official programme until the next session, to take precedence of all others. Adopted.

The thanks of the National Board were voted to the Baltimore Board of Trade and Corn and Flour Exchange, for their kindness and hospitality. The thanks of the Board were also voted to the Press, the Secretary, and the Hon. Fredrick Fraley, the presiding officer.

Mr. Fraley responded in a feeling address, after which the Board adjourned *sine die*.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Board, the Executive Council assembled, when it was decided to hold the next annual meeting in Philadelphia, on the third Tuesday in January, 1875.

THE CHIEF JUSTICESHIP.

Withdrawal of Caleb Cushing.

A short time before the President's Private Secretary started for the Capitol, on the 14th, a long letter from Mr. Cushing, through General Butler, was received by the President, in which the writer thanks the President for his kindness and partiality in nominating him for the great office of Chief Justice, and as if in contradiction of the numerous charges against him from the newspapers and other sources, expresses his conviction on the propriety of the several amendments to the Constitution, added since the late civil war, and in conclusion, asks that his nomination be withdrawn from the Senate The President detailed his Private Secretary, and added to the message of withdrawal a postscript, stating that since the message was yesterday written, he had received a letter from Mr. Cushing, a copy of which he encloses, deeming it an act of justice to that gentleman to lay the same before the Senate. As soon as the postscript was written, the Private Secretary left the Executive Mansion for the purpose of delivering the message to the Senate. The message was accompanied by the letter to Jefferson Davis as grounds on which the nomination is withdrawn, and also the letter to Mr. Cushing to President Grant, to which reference is above made.

Nothing has yet been concluded as to a new nominee for Chief Justice.

It is supposed in official quarters that Mr. Cushing will soon leave Washington for Madrid.

The following is the message of the President withdrawing the nomination of Caleb Cushing:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, Jan. 14, 1874.

"To the Senate of the United States:

"Since the nomination of Caleb Cushing, of Virginia, to be Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, information has reached me which induces me to withdraw his nomination for the highest judicial office in the Government.

"U. S. GRANT."

The following is the letter of Caleb Cushing to the President:

SIR: Animated by a sense of profound gratitude for the honor you have done me in nominating me to the high office of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and perceiving that the continuance of my name before the Senate may be the cause or occasion of inconvenience to yourself or your political friends there, I respectfully request you to withdraw the nomination.

Permit me to add that the charges of disloyalty to the Union and Constitution are utterly destitute of foundation, in truth or in fact. I indignantly repel the imputation. In all the time anterior to the beginning of hostilities in the Southern States, every act of my political life in whatever relation of parties, was governed by the single dominant purpose of aiming to preserve the threatened integrity of the Union, and to avert from my country the calamity of disruption, and of fratricidal carnage. How could such a purpose be promoted otherwise than by political association or personal intercourse with citizens of different States, including those of the States professedly disaffected to the Union? Should the only possible means of laboring to prevent civil war be stigmatized as disloyalty to the Constitution? But immediately on the occurrence of the first act of hostility to the Union being struck in the State of South Carolina, I took my stand with the Union and its Government. I publicly announced my adhesion to them in the most unqualified terms. I tendered my services to the Government in the field, or in any other way which might testify my fidelity to it, and I have continued from that day to this, as well in official as unofficial action, to tread in the path of unswerving devotion to the Union, whether during the actual progress of hostilities against it, or in subsequent events of its reconstruction and successive amendments of the Constitution, rendered necessary by the changed condition and relations of the several States, and of their respective inhabitants. The recent amendments of the Constitution, each and all of them, as they were in turn adopted, and the legislative acts for their enforcement and for accomplishing reconstruction, had my co-operation and adhesion, and I have supported them consistently, if not in political debate, for which my comparatively reserved habits of life afforded neither occasion nor opportunity, yet, in legal opinion or in courts, as in counsel or discussion with officers of the Government, members of Congress and private persons. I entertain the same general respect for these amendments as for the other provisions of the Constitution—and also rendering special observance due to them as just and necessary incidents of the reconstruction of the Union.

While my nomination was undergoing consideration in the Senate, it would have been unbecoming for me to speak in explanation of my acts or of my opinion; but now, with relative indifference to whatever else may have been said, either honestly or maliciously, to my prejudice, it belongs to my sense of public duty, and it is my right to reaffirm and declare, that I have never in the long course of a not inactive life, done any act, uttered a word or conceived a thought, of disloyalty to the Constitution or the Union.

I have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully,

C. CUSHING.

The Skirmish at Tompkins Square.

The discontent and dissatisfaction of the vast body of unemployed workingmen in the City of New York is developing a state of affairs which may yet be productive of terrible results. Last week the workingmen in large numbers assembled, after they had been refused permission by the authorities either to make a public parade, except under stringent restrictions, or to hold a public mass meeting, and the consequence was a collision of a bloody character with the police of the city some sixteen hundred strong.

The New York Tribune furnishes the following account of the skirmish at Tompkins Square on the 13th, when the police dispersed the crowd. By 10 o'clock the Square was densely packed, there being at least 8 000 in its vicinity. Many carried clubs and heavy sticks which they flourished fiercely. It had been arranged to clear the square at 10:45, but 15 minutes before the time announced for the beginning of the meeting. At that moment to a second, Captain Walsh, with a small but compact body of 24 men in double file, with drawn bayonets, marched rapidly through the western gates, and did not pause till the center of the space was reached. The signal "Halt" was then given, and for a minute the men waited for the arrival of the mounted squad. It was a moment of impatience and excitement among the police and their officers, The crowd surrounded them on every side. Yells and hisses filled their ears. An occasional missile fell in the midst of them. Clubs and other weapons could be seen above the rough and angry faces, and scarcely a block away hung from the windows of several houses facing the square, the red flag of the Commune. It did not require many insults to arouse the ire of the little band, and when, before their very eyes some daring ruffians sprung into a passing street car and attempted to rob its inmates, the order was given to charge. The crowd fell back with very little resistance, though occasionally a small body of men would refuse to move until they were soundly beaten with the policemen's clubs. Sergeant Brighold was interrupted by a man who carried a white banner, inscribed "Tenth Ward Arbiter Union," with which he struck the Sergeant in the face. The officer was surrounded, and one man felled him to the ground with the heavy portion of a billiard cue. The blow was followed by another inflicted on his forehead by a hammer in the hands of a member of the gang. At this moment several fellow officers sprang into the crowd, striking right and left, knocking a man down every blow, and rescued the Sergeant, who was very badly injured. The three persons who committed the assault were arrested, and the man who used the hammer was terribly beaten.

While Captain Walsh was clearing the Square, Captain Allaire with his detachment, was stationed at Avenue A, and Tenth street. His attention was directed suddenly to a body of men numbering about 250, who were marching down the centre of the avenue followed by a numerous rabble. The leader, who proved afterward to be Justus Schwab, a Communist, carried an immense red flag, which he triumphantly waved over his head. When the band reached the Square, Captain Allaire ordered his men to scatter them, which was done quickly and vigorously. The Communists were ignominiously driven down the cross streets and the red flag trailed in the dust. It was not many moments afterwards before Schwab appeared, with the banner wrapped about his body. Captain Allaire ordered his arrest, which was done, and the red flag now adorns the Seventeenth Precinct Station.

The Markets.

New York Produce Markets.

NEW YORK, January 19, 1874.—Cotton—16½c for middling uplands. Flour—the market is quiet and without decided change; receipts 4,000 bbls; sales 9,000 bbls; $7 15@7 45 for extra state; $7 45@ 8 65 for round hoop Ohio. Wheat—the market is quiet; receipts 102,000 bush; sales 30,000 bush at 101 for No 2 Chicago; 104c for No 2 Milwaukee. Rye—the market is quiet. Corn—the market is quiet; receipts 88,000 bu; sales 28,000 bu at 85@87c for western mixed in store. Barley is scarce and advancing. Oats—firmer; receipts 14,000 bush; sales 39,000 bush at 61c for mixed western; 61c for white western. Pork—market steady; $15 85 for new mess. Cut Meats are firm. Beef is steady. Lard firm; 9 3 16@9¾c for steam, 9¾c for kettle. Whisky 90½c. Sugar is firm. Petroleum—57½@58c for crude and 13½c for refined. Coal, Leather and Wool unchanged.

Produce Markets.

TOLEDO, TUESDAY MORNING, Jan. 20.—Flour—The market was ruled very quiet, with sales of fine at $4 00, Superfine, $4 50@5 00; Extra, $5 50@6 00; Double Extra and Fancy, $7@8 00; Buckwheat, $7 50. Wheat—The market for Wheat has ruled very quiet, and prices are generally a shade lower, with sales of Amber at 148½c spot and seller January; 149½c seller February; 155c seller March, and 159½c seller April; No. 2 Amber last sold at 156c; Extra White Michigan found takers at 162c; No. 1 White Michigan held at 152c